ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,

TRANSMITTED

WITH THE MESSAGE OF THE PRESIDENT

AT THE

OPENING OF THE SECOND SESSION OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS,

1844—1845.

Washington:

C. ALEXANDER, PRINTER,

1844.

REPORT

OF

THE COMMISSIONER OF INDIAN AFFAIRS.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR,
Office Indian Affairs, November 25, 1844.

SIR: The number of Indians who have been removed to the West has not changed for the last twelve months by any active movement of the department, nor at all, except that sixty Chickasaws have been added to the number, by self-emigration from the State of Mississippi. They are receiving subsistence out of their own funds, according to the treaty of 1834. Any other increase or (which is more probable) diminution of those east or west has been occasioned by births or deaths. Contracts have been made for the removal of the Miami Indians now in the State of Indiana, and of the Choctaws, who, under the provisions of the treaty of 1830, have remained until now in the State of Mississippi. A small party of the New York Indians, it has been said, desired to emigrate to the West. This has been met by counter representations, restricting the number of those having such a wish and entitled to participate in the benefits of the treaty to very few; and I believe that neither the interests of the State of New York nor of the United States will be promoted in any degree by the emigration of as many as wish to go, while the United States will be burdened with an expenditure utterly unproductive of benefit in any quarter, and of probable positive injury to the Indians. The best information I possess, moreover, leads to the belief that the idea of emigration has been or will be abandoned. (Appendix 1.)

You will find herewith a tabular statement, (2,) showing the number of Indians indigenous to the country beyond the Mississippi river, how many have been removed to the west, how many are now there, and how many remain east; how many have emigrated within one year, and are now on subsistence, and at what cost.

In my last report, a difficulty very improperly raised, and utterly without foundation, in relation to the cession of Isle Royale, in Lake Superior, by the treaty of 1842 with the Chippewas, was mentioned, and the views of this office given respecting it. As the subject is one of interest, and the property involved is very valuable, I again present these views, in which the commissioner who negotiated the treaty concurred, (3.) Plainly correct as they appeared to be, it was important to adjust the matter, and at once, lest it should fester, and be made important by the ill feeling it might engender. Robert Stuart, Esq., acting superintendent of Indian affairs in Michigan, was instructed on the 5th of April last to attend to this duty, which he performed very satisfactorily, enclosing me, under date of 21st September, from Detroit, a compact with the Chippewas, by which they confirmed the cession, and expressed themselves satisfied that Isle Royale was included in it. This acknowledgment cost the United States $400 worth of gunpowder and $100 worth of fresh beef, (4.) I am

gratified that the encouragement of the groundless pretension set up, and its possible consequences, have been so quietly and cheaply put by.

The objections made by a portion of the Seminoles who have been carried from Florida to the Indian territory, to remove into and establish themselves on the district of country fixed by treaty and law for their residence, has been more than once mentioned in my annual and special reports. The pertinacity with which they adhere to the position assumed by them, and refuse to occupy a part of the Creek territory, as contemplated by more than one treaty, induced me to attempt the removal of their opposition to a measure, that justice to the Cherokees, upon whose lands they had intruded, the present comfort and future permanent interests of the Seminoles themselves, and public duty, alike required should be enforced, or modified by a rearrangement more in accordance with the opinions and the feelings of the tribes in interest. There was not much likelihood that they would yield a compliance with the existing provisions, without at least shifting the ground somewhat; and, on the 10th of April last, a commission (consisting of the acting superintendent of Indian affairs, and of the several agents and sub-agents of the Indian territory) was constituted, through whose mediation between the Creeks and Seminoles I hoped to remove what I supposed to be the principal obstacle to the latter incorporating themselves with the former. To have coerced them would be to hazard more or less our peaceful relations with wild men, who crossed the Mississippi unwillingly, and reluctantly assented to what they could not prevent. The instructions (5) to the above board were scarcely dry, before a delegation of these truant Seminoles arrived at the seat of Government. Among them were Alligator and Wild Cat, distinguished for the skill and bravery they displayed in Florida. These delegates urged very strenuously upon the department, that the tract of land intended for them should be separated from that of the Creeks. Several conferences led to an extension of the powers before conferred upon the commission alluded to, so as to embrace the land question, a moderate allowance for loss of property, and a small expenditure for their removal to the district that should be finally assigned them, and for rations after they arrived at it, (6.) These incipient steps will, I trust, result in a compact that shall prove satisfactory on every hand, and content the refractory spirits who are most interested.

Renewed negotiations with the Winnebagoes, and with the united band of Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, on the Missouri river, have been directed. With the former, it has become a matter of such absolute necessity to treat for the acquisition of their small territory on the neutral ground, and their (the most important object) consequent removal from the neighborhood of the abodes and haunts of vicious white men, that if they will not consent to remove, the Government will be soon compelled to effect it by force. Their frequent depredations, occasional murders, and daily broils, have so exasperated the good citizens of their vicinity, that the department cannot long be deaf to their complaints, and to the resolutions of the Legislature of Iowa. I will not, at the same time, avoid remarking, that, however vagrant and degraded and vicious this tribe is, (and I believe it to have more of the notoriety of degeneracy than any other,) their bad propensities, their dissolute habits, and apparently incorrigible vices, are much strengthened by the shameful and criminal traffic in whiskey, carried on by white men with them on the banks of the Mississippi, to which the large annuities (enormous contrasted with their number) they

receive from the United States, afford both the temptation and the means of indulgence.*

The confederated band on the Missouri are but a part or parts rather of bands located in the Osage river country, in about or nearly equal proportions. Not much above 2,000 in number of them live upon and occupy five millions of acres of land on the Missouri, that belong to them and their brethren on the Osage. This utterly disproportionate possession of land will soon work inconveniently for Iowa, which is peopling rapidly, and at this moment forming a Constitution, that she may take a place in the family of States. It was intended as a home for all the Indians, parties to the treaty of Chicago; not more than a moiety, if so many, are upon it; they must go to their brethren, or the latter come to them, which is not recommended by one sound reason. Separated as they are, however, their annuities are paid with difficulty, and it is impossible to say that they are distributed precisely as they should be; their fund for mills and houses, &c., and for education, cannot be judiciously expended; but unite them on the Osage, their annuities thrown into one common fund and divided regularly, mills and houses built, farms established, school houses erected, and teachers employed and paid for common benefit, their prosperity must be greatly accelerated and increased, and will be as much joint stock as their means.

A third attempt to negotiate with the Camanche and other wild tribes of Indians treaties of friendship and amity, in connexion with our sister Republic of Texas, has been made this autumn,† to secure, as far as may be, the border inhabitants of either Republic from the outrages to persons or property that savage men, who acknowledge no measure of right but power, are so inclined to perpetrate. I hope full success will attend this effort. The desire to accomplish the object in view is not weakened by a representation recently made to this office by the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, founded on information which he thinks reliable, that from one to two hundred white women and children are held in captivity and treated as slaves by the Camanches. Their husbands and protectors are said to have been killed in Texas, where they lived, and the women and children carried off. (See his report, Appendix 65.) This rumor is, I presume, without foundation in the shape in which it is presented. There may be, and probably are, a few white captives among the wild prairie Indians. We have ransomed several. But if credit is given by any one to such a report, it must create, where there is liability or exposure to similar misfortune and suffering, great anxiety and uneasiness, which every Government is bound to remove from the minds of its citizens.

Speaking in my last annual report of the treaty of 17th March, 1842, with the Wyandots, this language was employed: "The 5th article of the treaty stipulates that 'the United States agree to pay the Wyandots the full value of their improvements in the country hereby ceded by them in Ohio and Michigan; which valuation shall be made by two persons, to be appointed by the President of the United States, who shall be sworn faithfully to do justice to the parties; the amount of such valuation to be paid at any time after the first day of April, 1843, as shall be acceptable to the Wyan-

---

* Since the foregoing was written, I have received official advice from the commissioner selected to negotiate with the Winnebagoes, that his efforts have failed of success.

† Instructions for the first negotiation were dated 18th January, 1843; and for the second, 18th August, 1843.

dot chiefs, to meet their arrangements for emigrating.' The treaty was ratified on the 17th of August, 1842.

"In pursuance of the above stipulations, appraisers or valuers were appointed, whose report not having been received when the estimates were sent to Congress at the commencement of the last session, the sum of $20,000 was put down as the supposed value of the Wyandot improvements. On the 22d of February last, the report was received, showing the aggregate of valuations to be $125,937 24.* This sum, though deemed to be enormously high, it was believed the Government could not decline to pay, because it was ascertained in the mode pointed out by the treaty, and being so found, fixed the United States for the payment of the amount, from which nothing short of the existence of fraud could absolve them; of that there was neither evidence nor allegation. The additional sum necessary was estimated for, and the proper committee informed that it was the opinion of the department that the Government could not escape its obligation. The appropriation was not augmented as requested, but was restricted to the $20,000 contained in the original estimate. This sum was remitted on the 25th May to the sub-agent, with instructions to pay it ratably to the improvement holders. There still remains due to them $105,937 24, included in the estimates that will be laid before Congress, which I hope may be appropriated."

It will be seen from this that I was of opinion that the Government was bound from the moment of the first appraisement, unless it was shown that fraud had entered into the valuations, of which then or now I have seen no evidence, unless it is to be found in the facts which will be mentioned. Congress having declined to appropriate more than the $20,000 granted on the 3d day of March, 1843, it became a question with you how far the Executive could go over the same ground by a second valuation. On the 20th February last, I made a report to you on a letter of the Hon. A. S. White, of the Senate, to the President, dated 15th February; of the latter a copy, and of the former an extract is furnished, (7,) containing the same views on my part, which was followed by an order from you to prepare instructions for "the reappraisement of the Wyandot lands." They were draughted on the 29th March last, (8,) and the report of the valuers received at this office on 7th September for the Ohio cession, and on 21st of same month for the Michigan land, showing an aggregate of value for both of $66,941—less than the first appraisement by $60,153 24. On the same day, I made a communication (9) to the President of the United States, (in your absence,) detailing the facts and laying the last report before him. By him, you have informed me that said communication was referred to your department. The papers cited exhibit the true state of this vexatious affair. The great disparity of amount between the two appraisements, as well as the other discrepancies and inconsistencies, show clearly enough that the first report was inaccurate, and leaves the mind in doubt whether mistakes have not crept into the last. Assuming the power (which, it will be recollected, I think does not exist) to reappraise and to adopt either or neither report, the importance of the matter and the uncertainty in which it is shrouded would justify, if they do not require, a third valuation.

On the 14th December last, a contract, by which the Wyandots agreed to purchase a body of land from the Delawares, was entered into. It was,

* This sum should be $127,094 24.

soon after its receipt here, viz: on 26th of January, transmitted to your immediate predecessor, with a report, (10,) that both might be laid before the Chief Magistrate. They were submitted to him, and I understand the compact was by him laid before the Senate, with whose action thereon I am not acquainted. The Wyandots in May last asked the department to confirm a selection of land they had made in the West, under the 2d article of the treaty of 17th March, 1842. They were informed that the chosen tract had been already allotted to the Miamies and New York Indians, and doubts were expressed whether they could be permitted to hold any tract of land they did not occupy. The views thrown out in reply to their request were made known to them, and on 24th July an answer was received, (11.) By this communication it appeared that this tribe is not exempt from an influence that seeks its own ends, without regard to their wishes or interests—the great curse of all Indian communities. From what is reported by sub-agent Phillips, it would seem that the mass of this small tribe know little or nothing of the motives of the purchase from the Delawares, which are carefully kept from them; that the acquisition is rather a matter of speculation, for the benefit of a few, than for the accommodation of all; and that the opinions of the department, which are believed to be sound, adverse to this application of tribe funds for individual advantage, were received with warmth by those whose selfish purposes they ran across, even to misleading them into threats.

The treaty of 20th May, 1842, with the Senecas of New York, (art. 4,) required an appraisement by arbitrators of the value of the land within the Buffalo creek and Tonawanda reservations, and of the improvements on each, according to the principles agreed on. This duty and its performance were adverted to a year ago. The valuations have been since received. The sum which the Indian interest in the land was reported to be worth (viz: $75,000) has been paid, and invested in the six per cent. United States loan of 1842, according to the provision of the 5th article of said treaty. The amounts at which the improvements were put are payable to the President on the surrender thereof, for distribution among the respective owners of them. The last branch of this duty is in process of execution. Difficulties have been raised by the Indians and their advisers in relation to it, which for a long time threatened to be troublesome, but I am happy to say that the last advices received lead to the belief that on the principal and largest reservation—the one immediately adjoining the city of Buffalo—"there is a prospect of closing this troublesome business in a quiet and peaceable manner."

Herewith, you will find fiscal tables showing the amount drawn out of the Treasury between the 30th June, 1843, and the 30th June, 1844, inclusive, on account of appropriations for the half calendar year ending the 30th June, 1843, and the balance thereof undrawn; also, the amount appropriated for the service of the Indian department for the fiscal year commencing the 1st day of July, 1843, and ending with the 30th June, 1844, and the amount drawn thereout from the Treasury to the last day named, together with the balance undrawn, (12.)

I annex, likewise, an exhibit of the investments in stocks held in trust for Indian tribes, as well as of the sums on which Congress appropriate the interest annually, as called for by treaties, instead of investing the respective amounts in stocks, (13.) The latter I think, as I have before had the honor to represent, the better policy, unless when you can invest in

United States stock, as required by the act of 11th September, 1841, which amounts to the same thing.

The annuity and other payments for the year, due from the United States to the various Indian tribes, were severally remitted, and have been paid, or are in a course of payment, to those entitled to receive them. It is made the duty of the department, under certain circumstances, by the 17th section of the law of 30th June, 1834, to deduct the amount of claims for depredations out of annuities, to indemnify the sufferers. Of this, the Indians generally complain; but they speak with more earnestness and considerable asperity of claims, which the department has disallowed, as not within the intercourse law, having been sanctioned by acts of Congress, under the constraint of whose authority the Executive has been compelled to act in discharging them.

Numerous claims to reservations of land, under various Indian treaties, have been finally disposed of. Many have received examinations more or less full, preliminary to a conclusion of them; while others again have been decided provisionally, and wait a compliance on the part of purchasers from the reservees, with the condition precedent that must be performed before approval can take place.

It is expected that the next year will leave very few of the claims under the Creek treaty of 1832 unsettled; of which, the payment of the money due by purchasers, according to the prescription of this office, will end a large proportion. If my anticipation of their compliance shall not be realized, it will be advisable, in my opinion, to give notice to all who have bought Creek reservations, and hold contracts for them, subject to the condition named, that, unless they perform it within some reasonably short time, this office will advise the Chief Magistrate to offer the land for sale under the law of 3d March, 1837. A settlement of this class of claims will open the way for closing the land branch of the Creek treaty, which will be wound up by a public sale under the law referred to, as well of those cases in which pretended sales have been set aside because fraud had intervened, or for any other good reason, as of claims in which sales, real or pretended, by the reservees, their heirs, or the courts of Alabama, have never taken place. The proceeds of these sales will belong to those who owned the reservations, or to their heirs and legal representatives.

Commissioners appointed under the law of 23d August, 1842, to investigate and dispose of claims to reservations of land under the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, made in September, 1830, with the Choctaws, are in session in the State of Mississippi, where the reserves and the reservees are. The commission raised under the 17th article of the treaty with the Cherokees of December, 1835, has been and is pursuing its investigations and performing its duties in this city, whence, I understand, the gentlemen composing it purpose shortly going to the West, for their further and better prosecution.

I mention, with great pain, that the dissensions and ill feeling that have so long and injuriously prevailed in the Cherokee nation have not yet disappeared, and, I fear, have not subsided to any useful extent. It is, perhaps, according to the infirmity of our nature, that the majority party, if they are not so tyrannical as they are charged to be, should be more imperious than is agreeable to the other side, or politic for themselves, as is often the case where there is a large numerical preponderance, while it as generally happens that the minority are unreasonably querulous. The di-

visions among this enlightened red people are most unfortunate in every aspect. They cannot advance as they would if they were harmonious and happy, and making a strong general effort for the common good. With all the advantages of an established written form of Government, of the press, of fixed laws, and of schools, the example of perpetual irritation which they place before the more rude and uncultivated tribes must assist to mar the exertions put forth for their amelioration.

I have pleasure in saying that the compact of amity concluded between the Sioux and Chippewas, at Fort Snelling, in August, 1842, has had the happy effect of restraining the before unbridled hostility of these tribes to each other. Encouragement may be found in this fact to bind the various tribes, where necessary, in peaceful bonds to each other, by conventions between themselves. It would be difficult to find, in the whole range of our Indian relations, tribes more warlike, more inimical now and as far back as tradition reaches to each other, or less likely to yield to the obligations of a treaty of reciprocal friendship, than the two named.

The memorial of the Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan, to the President, (which will be found in the appendix, with the annual report of the superintendent of Indian affairs for that State,) prays that they may have "a permanent location on the land of their birth, and ultimately the rights and privileges of American citizens." A large proportion of them (not much short of one-half, it is represented) are so far advanced, morally and socially, as to qualify them for being useful members of any community. They set forth, that many of them are connected by marriage and blood with our fellow-citizens of their vicinage. The measure is one in which Michigan is chiefly interested, and, having been favorably considered by her Legislature, is submitted for consideration and such action by Congress as it may be the pleasure of the National Legislature to adopt.

The frequent rains of last spring and early summer, giving out more water than ordinarily falls to the ground at that season, or within the same time, swelled the numerous streams in the West and Southwest beyond their banks, and covered the circumjacent country with such a body of water as was destructive to the crops and often to the dwellings of our own citizens, and still more disastrous to the fields, and crops, and stock of the Indians. Much immediate inconvenience was the necessary consequence, and suffering through the approaching winter must, I fear, follow. Some of the tribes have shown the most commendable perseverance in the replanting of their crops, which, in several instances, grew up for the second time, to be cut down by the "army worm."

Worse for the red man, however, than the flood and army worm, is the traffic in whiskey, to which our own citizens lend themselves, from the most contemptible and sordid motives. Outraging every principle of morals, all law, and the dictates of humanity, they deliberately place the instrument of destruction in his hand, and persuade him to use it, brutalizing him, and making victims of his wife and children, that they may fraudulently pick his pocket and strip his back of the blanket that covers it. To this crime, (among the greatest, in my opinion, a man can perpetrate,) however it may escape punishment, or how inadequate soever the penalties of its commission, there seems to be, near the scenes of its occurrence, a lamentable indifference. It matters not that these misguided creatures kill each other, or that (a species of retributive justice) they take the lives of those who, still more cruel, have stimulated them to their mutual destruction,

the sale of whiskey has gone on; it has increased, but there is some reason to hope that it will be diminished.

The general character of the information received on this subject is gratifying. There is less of ardent spirits used than in former years; but I believe that we are in no degree indebted to an abandonment of the traffic by white men for this improvement, but to amended Indian lives and better Indian morals. This is the lever to which I have always looked for lifting the red man out of the mire into which white cupidity and want of principle had sunk him, and are yet endeavoring to press him still lower. The resolution of each individual, or perhaps of the tribes, respectively, is the great dependence for a thorough reform. The firm resolve is, after all, under Providence, the source of every valuable change in the condition of men.

Laws are made by the United States and several of the States and Territories against the sale of whiskey to Indians, but they are to a great extent eluded by the adroitness of offenders and the almost impossibility of proving their guilt, unless you find them in possession of the contraband article. Generally those only are acquainted with these deeds of cruelty who are partakers of the crime; or, in the few instances in which others may know the circumstances, apprehension of the consequences deters from their disclosure. The pecuniary penalty incurred amounts to nothing—it is a forfeiture of what the man does not possess. If imprisonment at the discretion of the court having jurisdiction could be substituted, adding a criminal process and judgment, perhaps some legal restraint might be found; at all events, you would be seizing almost the only thing the offender has—his person.

The application of Indian funds to the indulgence just referred to, and the incapacity to guard against imposition, even in the more proper use of the money payable to them, to which the cupidity of those who deal with them is prompted by the facility of overreaching them, show that if we could fall upon a scheme of furnishing goods and provisions to the Indians in lieu of the money we now pay them, much would be gained. Present comfort in the larger supply they would receive—the leading string which that comfort would afford to conduct them into the walks of civilization—their gradual withdrawal from habits of intemperance, and the removal of the bad influences that grow and strengthen upon the vices they feed, would soon be seen in the improvement of the Indians every where, as we now behold it occasionally, but not unfrequently. The present system I have so often presented as defective; the trade with Indians, as established by law, as so expensive to them, and destructive of the just influence of Government agents, that it would not be either pleasant or profitable to repeat the suggestions hitherto made. This subject, I understood, engaged the attention of the Committee on Indian Affairs during the last session of Congress; and fortunate would it be, if, at the session which approaches, their inquiries could be continued and pursued to the adoption of a plan, into which should be incorporated so much of the factory system as will embrace the supplying of goods to the Indians by United States agents or officers, at what they will cost, to an amount not exceeding their annuities, severally. This is the principle, upon which may be engrafted whatever of detail is necessary to clothe it with efficiency. Such a change would be a measure of infinite beneficence to the weak beings who are thrown on our care and guardianship by the circumstances be-

longing to ourselves and them. It is a trust we could not decline if we would, and God forbid that we would do it if we could. To render them all the good we can is our duty as men and Christians, and it will somewhat soften the severity of that censure with which we must regard certain passages in our common history. The necessity of by-gone times may, and partially and on some occasions will, palliate whatever has taken place; but now, when we make laws, and the work of the schoolmaster and the missionary is doing under Government patronage in the wilds of their abode, it becomes us surely to permit nothing which shall prevent our benefactions from being useful, if, indeed, as the recipients of education and Christianity, we are not bound to spread far and wide the light which has been so bountifully shed upon ourselves. It is the best, and perhaps the only, return we can make to the red man, for much that was unavoidable, and for all that is irremediable, as well as for the blessings of liberal government and good laws, and the freedom of conscience, which characterize our condition. It is an appropriate return; and, instead of losing by a distribution or division of the favors which have produced such eminent public prosperity and so much individual felicity in these United States, we shall grow more capable of enjoying these advantages, and even make them more productive of good fruits.

The education of the Indian is a great work. It includes more than the term imports in its application to civilized communities. Letters and personal accomplishments are what we generally intend to speak of by using the word ; though sometimes, even with us, it has a more comprehensive meaning. Applied to wild men, its scope should take in a much more extensive range, or you give them the shadow for the substance. They must at the least be taught to read and write, and have some acquaintance with figures; but if they do not learn to build and live in houses, to sleep on beds; to eat at regular intervals; to plough, and sow, and reap; to rear and use domestic animals; to understand and practise the mechanic arts; and to enjoy, to their gratification and improvement, all the means of profit and rational pleasure that are so profusely spread around civilized life, their mere knowledge of what is learned in the school room proper will be comparatively valueless. At a future day, more or less remote, when those who are now savage shall have happily become civilized, this important branch of Indian interest may be modified according to circumstances; but at present, when every thing is to be learned at the school, and nothing, as with us, by the child as it grows up, unconsciously and without knowing how or when, the manual labor school system is not only deserving of favor, but it seems to me indispensable to the civilization of the Indians ; and their civilization, with a rare exception here and there, is as indispensable to real and true Christianity in them.

The Methodist manual labor school is prospering. The industry, energy, and piety, which belong to this sect, are a sure guaranty of success. The extension of operations in agriculture and the various mechanic branches, united with the liberal economy that has directed the making of this establishment, the accommodation that is afforded to instructed and instructors, the patient labors that impart knowledge, and the pure lives that teach good morals, all recommend this institution. The Delaware Indians, who have had some children educated at this school, by an agreement of the 28th of February last with the superintendent of it, have appropriated the balance of their education fund lying in the Treasury (up-

wards of $2,000) to its use, and the interest falling due annually ($2,844) they have covenanted shall go for ten years to this establishment; in consideration whereof, their children, to any number not exceeding fifty, but never to fall below thirty, shall be educated, fed, clothed, &c. This is a very agreeable arrangement, for the Delawares had manifested a decided aversion to schools, and have had none among themselves. It shows changed views, altered in the right direction. Their money is applied as the treaty of 1829 intended it should be, and it is applied where it cannot fail to be useful.

The Choctaws, who have earned for themselves so much credit by the establishment of schools in their own country, and who have bestowed so liberally of the tribe means to the great cause of education, continue to press forward in their noble course. The example they have set to other tribes is worth more than the expenditure; and the improvement, socially, morally, and religiously, among themselves, is priceless; it cannot be estimated. Their policy in this particular will be an enduring monument to their forecast, and at some future time they will receive, as they will deserve, the gratitude of those that will profit by their example. This people are sowing, in other respects, the seed of prosperity. I have samples of cotton, and cotton and woollen cloth, (linsey,) manufactured by them, that make very good ordinary clothing, and such as I have often seen worn in Pennsylvania. They have shown, in an improvement in their legislative body, a sagacity and sense of justice infinitely creditable. The tribe is divided into three districts, one of which is much the most populous, and larger than the others. So long as their council or legislature was in one body, the smaller districts complained that the larger one controlled every movement, and overshadowed them. To silence this discontent, the strong district had the good sense and good feeling to agree that the legislature or council should consist of two bodies, in one of which each of the districts should be represented in its corporate capacity, on the principle of our Senate, as a counterpoise to the inequality in the other branch. The Chickasaws, who are united with the Choctaws, and form a fourth district under the convention between them of the 17th of January, 1837, are not so advanced. They live immediately west of the Choctaws, in a country as good, if not better. They are not to be complained of particularly, but they do lag, and why? No other good reason can be assigned, than the large amount of their funds, to which they look for support.

The Presbyterian board of foreign missions has determined to establish a manual labor school in the country of the Iowas, southwest of the Missouri river. This meets the entire approbation of the Iowas and of the Sauks, or Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, who live immediately south of them. The latter have appropriated $3,219 05 of their funds; and, so long as they occupy their present location, the sum of $770 accruing to them annually, to aid in the erection of the buildings and the support of the establishment. The Iowas have also presented the sum of $1,456 62 for the same most laudable purpose.

The sums thus bestowed I have increased by a donation of $2,000. These contributions, added to the means of the missionary board, which will be applied to this object, will, it is hoped, place the school upon a footing of permanent usefulness. The work will be prosecuted with vigor, and the institution go into operation in the course of next year. It will, I trust, become eminently efficient in reclaiming the Indians, and make its

full contribution to the result to which so many efforts of the good and benevolent are directed.

A school is about to be opened among the Quapaws, on the manual labor principle, which appears to be regarded very generally as the only plan that can succeed. The spirit that breathes through the sub-agent's report in relation to it, and the pleasure manifested by the Indians in regard of this infant institution, justify the hope that the advantage of location which it is said to enjoy will be improved to the great benefit of the surrounding tribes.

The other schools in the several superintendencies, I am happy to say, seem to be in the main prosperous; and upon comparing the tabular statements of last year with those now submitted, you will perceive a large increase of scholars. In this circumstance alone there is seen either greater exertion on the part of the teachers, or greater inclination to profit by their labors on the part of the Indians, either of which is an important element of success. While I very much prefer manual labor institutions, I would, by all the means in my power, encourage the continuance of ordinary schools, at least until there can be substituted for them those which are deemed to be more valuable. Annexed are tabular statements exhibiting, in a condensed form, all the information in my possession relative to schools, the amount and disposition of funds provided by treaty for education purposes, and the state of the civilization fund, (14, 15.) The details that concern these interesting institutions, respectively, you will find in the several reports appended, (16 to 57.)

The history of our Indian relations will be found most at large in the reports of the superintendents of Indian affairs, and of the agents and sub-agents, which are in the appendix, (58 to 97.) These papers are the true sources of information on the subjects of which they treat. They are made by gentlemen of intelligence and character, who are familiar with the wants and habits and qualities of those around them, who become by constant intercourse not only objects of interest, but a conscientious discharge of duty to whom often creates mutual attachment. The condition of the Indian race, as connected with the United States, is, in the general, one of improvement, and slow but sure approaches to civilization, very distinctly marked, in my judgment. It is proved, I think, conclusively, that it is in no respect inferior to our own race, except in being less fortunately circumstanced. As great an aptitude for learning the letters, the pursuits, and arts of civilized life, is evident; if their progress is slow, so has it been with us and with masses of men in all nations and ages. Their great drawback is want of employment—want of incentive to exertion, of which they are deprived by the joint ownership of land and property. It never has happened, and it never will happen, notwithstanding all that has been said to the contrary, that there can be much of civilization without separate and individual ownership of property; and this is practically enforced among the Indian tribes who have emerged most from savagism, where, although there are no individual titles to property, there are individual possession and cultivation.

I cannot enter into detailed remarks respecting the brightening prospects of many of the tribes, and yet they deserve that I should say of the Creeks, that, notwithstanding their lands were submerged by the rains of the past season, they have raised more corn than they will consume. That portion of them known as the upper town Creeks have grown and

manufactured very nearly as much cotton as will clothe them. These things, let it be remembered, have been done by a people without a written constitution or laws, governed by their chiefs, and living in the simplicity of the patriarchal age.

The unneighborly policy has been long pursued by the British provincial authorities of distributing presents to the Indians resident within our limits, who were annually attracted to the Manitoulin islands for that purpose. I have often heretofore, in annual and special reports, spoken of this subject. It had its origin in the desire to make the savages, when they were more savage than now, the instruments of the British Government in war, and was continued with a view to the same end in rewarding them for services rendered. Several causes have concurred within a few years to the termination of this highly exceptionable practice. The British Government desired to rid itself of an expense no longer likely to be fruitful of any advantage in this pacific age; and the Indians themselves who lived within the circle of British influence have, by late treaties, become entitled to annuities from the United States, which, making them less necessitous, have created an indisposition to long journeys for trifling receipts. I am informed very few go to Canada now, and I imagine these to go from habit, or to consist of worthless vagrants. No mischief is likely to follow a continuation of these visits on their present footing, nor will they, for very obvious reasons, probably be long or often repeated.

There is an existing evil, however, of a different character, which is likely to continue, and requires the attention of the Government. A large body of half-breed Indians, who live in Canada, in the country of the North Red river, make annual incursions into our territory, in great force, as well of numbers as equipment, destroy, it is represented, not fewer than thirty thousand head of buffalo, and frequently have conflicts with the Sioux that terminate in loss of life. One of these meetings took place the past summer, in which eight or ten lives were destroyed. This ought not to be permitted. The Indians who are within our territory are entitled to the game that is upon it. At present, it is so abundant that no inconvenience is probably felt from its diminution; or, if felt, the absolutely wild men upon whom the injury is inflicted cannot, at their great distance, make their complaints fully known. The British authorities can scarcely be ignorant of the existence of this violation of right, for it is said "the supplies of the British Hudson Bay Company post are drawn from this source principally."

If this practice is not arrested, it may, and probably will, terminate in extensive, long-continued, and destructive hostilities between the Indians and half-breeds, the end or consequences of which cannot be foreseen.

Communications have been received from Dr. Elijah White, sub-agent for the Indians in Oregon Territory, dated, severally, November 15, 1843, and 18th March, 1844, (98, 99, 100.) They contain much of interest in considerable detail. The establishment of white settlements from the United States, in that remote region, seems to be attended with the circumstances that have always arisen out of the conversion of an American wilderness into a cultivated and improved region, modified by the great advance of the present time in morals and benevolent and religious institutions. It is very remarkable, that there should be so soon several well-supported, well-attended, and well-conducted schools in Oregon. The

Nezpercés tribe of Indians have adopted a few simple and plain laws as their code, which will teach them self-restraint, and is the beginning of government on their part.

It is painful, however, to know that a distillery for the manufacture of whiskey was erected and in operation west of the Rocky mountains, which, however, the sub-agent, sustained by the resident whites, broke up and destroyed. There was in February last an affray between a very boisterous and desperate Indian and his party and a portion of the settlers, which ended in the death of several of the combatants. This unfortunate affair was adjusted, as it is hoped, satisfactorily and permanently, by the sub-agent, though he seems to apprehend an early outbreak. I trust he is mistaken.

An Indian youth of the Chinnook tribe or band, in Oregon, accompanied Lieutenant Fremont, of the corps of topographical engineers, on his return to the United States from his late tour of duty in the far West. Mr. F. took charge of the lad, whose name is William, at the instance of the missionaries, who believed, and no doubt correctly, that much benefit would result to the weak settlements, so remote from all others, from William's representations, on his return in the spring, of what he saw and heard on the shores of the Atlantic, and on his way to them. Lieutenant F. made known to me that he was in Washington, and I have been so fortunate as to secure a place for him in the family and under the direction of the Rev. O. Douglass, of Philadelphia, who has charge of the Mariner's church in that city. He will receive all the advantages of tuition, all the teaching of morals by example, and all the piety that religious instruction and Christian lives can impart, from this good man, or, in his absence, from the Rev. Griffith Owen, who is his worthy substitute on such occasions, and his aid when they are together. William, who is about 18 years old, manifests great aptitude, and can make himself very well understood in the English language now, although a few months ago he did not understand a word of it. He appears, moreover, to be well tempered, and will profit by the opportunities afforded him for mental culture. Lieutenant F. will have the gratification of having added to the other good services he rendered on his late tour, that of being the cause of opening one human mind to the light of knowledge, and, possibly, through its agency, thus enlightened, of preventing future Indian murders, or, it may be, Indian wars.

Respectfully submitted.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM WILKINS,
Secretary of War.

List of documents accompanying the report of the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

1. Extract from letter of S. Osborn.
2. Census of Indian tribes.
3. Extracts from two letters of Robert Stuart.
4. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and compact between Robert Stuart and Chippewas of Lake Superior and Mississippi.
5. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Major W. Armstrong.
6. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Secretary of War, letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Major W. Armstrong, and approval of Secretary of War of Commissioner of Indian Affairs' recommendation.
7. Letter from Hon. A. S. White to Commissioner of Indian Affairs, and letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Secretary of War.
8. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Messrs. Caldwell and Waggoner, appraisers of Wyandot improvements.
9. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to President of United States.
10. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to Secretary of War.
11. Letter from Commissioner of Indian Affairs to superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, and letter from sub-agent Phillips to superintendent of Indian Affairs at St. Louis.

12 and 13. Fiscal statements.

14. Tabular statement of schools.
15. Statement of treaty funds for education, and statement of civilization fund.

SCHOOL REPORTS.

16. Report of John L. Seymour, Winnebago school.
17. Report of Thomas Williamson, Lac qui Parle, Sioux school.
18. Report of Solomon Davis, Duck Creek, Oneida school.
19. Report of H. R. Coleman, Green Bay, Oneida school.
20. Report of S. M. Irvin and Wm. Hamilton, Iowa and Sac mission.
21. Report of J. F. L. Verreyett, Sugar Creek, Pottawatomie school.
22. Report of Francis Barker, Shawnee Baptist mission.
23. Report of J. D. Blanchard, Delaware Baptist mission.
24. Minutes of council with Sacs and Foxes of Missouri, and minutes of council with Iowas of Missouri.
25. Report of Samuel Allis, Pawnee school.
26. Report of J. C. Berryman, Fort Leavenworth manual labor school.
27. Agreement between Delawares and J. C. Berryman.
28. Report of William Armstrong, schools in his superintendency.
29. Report of P. T. Hotchkin, Good Water.
30. Report of C. Byington, Stockbridge.
31. Report of John D. Bemo, Prospect Hill, Seminole.
32. Report of B. B. R. Barker, Neosho, Quapaws.
33. Report of S. G. Patterson, Quapaw mission.
34. Report of Charles C. Copeland, Norwalk.

35. Report of J. M. Steele, Choctaw mission.
36. Report of A. Wright, Wheelock.
37. Report of C. Kingsbury, Pine Ridge.
38. Report of E. McKinney, Spencer academy.
39. Report of R. D. Potts, Providence.
40. Report of William H. Goode, Fort Coffee academy.
41. Report of D. Carter, Cherokee public schools.
42. Report of S. A. Worcester, Park Hill.
43. Report of D. S. Butrick, Mount Zion.
44. Report of David Z. Smith, Spring Place.
45. Report of P. M. Butler, Cherokee schools.
46. Report of B. B. R. Barker, Crawford academy.
47. Report of E. Butler, Fairfield.
48. Report of J. Hitchcock, Dwight mission.
49. Report of S. Foreman, report on temperance.
50. Report of A. Bingham, Sault Ste. Marie.
51. Report of W. H. Brockway, Chippewas and Ottowas.
52. Report of P. Dougherty, Chippewas and Ottowas.
53. Report of L. Slater, Ottowa colony.
54. Report of P. P. Lefevre, Detroit.
55. Report of G. N. Smith, Old Wing.
56. Report of O. D. Goodrich, Old Wing.
57. Report of Bishop McCoskrey, Detroit.

REPORTS OF SUPERINTENDENTS, AGENTS, AND SUB-AGENTS.

58. Report of Governor Chambers, Iowa Territory.
59. Report of John Beach, Sac and Fox agent.
60. Report of A. J. Bruce, Sioux agent.
61. Report of J. McGregor, jr., Winnebago sub-agent.
62. Report of Benjamin Terrel, Winnebago farmer.
63. Report of Governor Tallmadge, Wisconsin Territory.
64. Report of D. Jones, sub-agent at Green Bay.
65. Report of Thomas H. Harvey, superintendent at St. Louis.
66. Report of Daniel Miller, agent at Council Bluffs.
67. Report of R. W. Cummins, agent at Fort Leavenworth.
68. Report of W. P. Richardson, sub-agent at Great Nemaha.
69. Report of R. S. Elliott, sub-agent at Council Bluffs.
70. Report of J. Phillips, Wyandot sub-agent.
71. Report of James Mathers, Pawnee farmer.
72. Report of George W. Woodcock, Pawnee farmer.
73. Report of George B. Gaston, Pawnee farmer.
74. Report of John W. Foreman, Sac and Fox farmer, Missouri.
75. Report of W. Armstrong, acting superintendent Western Territory.
76. Report of P. M. Butler, Cherokee agent.
77. Report of A. M. M. Upshaw, Chickasaw agent.
78. Report of James Logan, Creek agent.
79. Report of B. B. R. Barker, Neosho sub-agent.
80. Report of Thomas L. Judge, Seminole sub-agent.
81. Report of Robert Stuart, acting superintendent, Michigan, and petition of Ottowas and Chippewas.
82. Report of A. T. McReynolds, sub-agent at Saginaw.

APPENDIX.

(1.)

Extract of a letter of S. Osborn, Esq., October 8*th*, 1844, *to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

There has been a small party among the Senecas who have been in favor of emigrating west of the Mississippi, under the treaty of 1838, but finding themselves unable to prevail on any considerable number of their people to accompany them, they are about to abandon the undertaking altogether, I believe.

(2.)

Statement showing the number of each tribe of Indians, whether natives of, or emigrants to, the country west of the Mississippi, with items of emigration and subsistence.

NAMES OF TRIBES.	Number of each tribe indigenous to the country west of the Mississippi river.	Number removed of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Present western population of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Number remaining east of each tribe.	Number removed since date of last annual report.	Number of each now under subsistence west.	Daily expense of subsisting them.
Appachees	20,280						
Arickarees	1,200						
Arrapahas	2,500						
Assinaboins	7,000						
Blackfeet	1,300						
Caddoes	2,000						
Camanches	19,200						
Cherokees	–	25,911	25,911	1,000			
Cheyenes	2,000						
Chickasaws	–	4,990	4,111	20	60	60	$2 85
Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, and Pottawatomies of Indiana	–	5,779	2,028	92			
Chippewas of the Lakes	–	–	–	*7,605			
Choctaws	–	15,177	*12,410	*7,000			
Creeks	–	24,594	24,594	744			
Crees	800						
Crows	4,000						
Delawares	–	826	1,059				
Eutaws	19,200						
Flatheads	800						
Florida Indians	–	3,824	(a) *3,136				
Gros Ventres	3,300						
Iowas	470						

STATEMENT—Continued.

NAMES OF TRIBES.	Number of each tribe indigenous to the country west of the Mississippi river.	Number removed of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Present western population of each tribe wholly or partially removed.	Number remaining east of each tribe.	Number removed since date of last annual report.	Number of each now under subsistence west.	Daily expense of subsisting them.
Kanzas	* (b) 1,700						
Kickapoos	–	588	505				
Kiowas	1,800						
Mandans	300						
Menomonies	–	–	–	*2,500			
Miamies	–	–	–	661			
Minatarees	2,000						
New York Indians	–	–	–	3,293			
Omahas	*1,301						
Oneidas of Green Bay	–	–	–	*722			
Osages	4,102						
Otoes and Missourias	931						
Ottowas and Chippewas, together with the Chippewas of Michigan	–	–	–	7,055			
Pagans	30,000						
Pancas	*777						
Pawnees	12,500						
Peorias and Kaskaskias	–	132	150				
Piankeshaws	–	162	98				
Pottawatomies of Huron	–	–	–	100			
Quapaws	* (c) 400						
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi	(d) 2,348						
Sacs of Missouri	(d) 414						
Senecas from Sandusky	–	251	*125				
Senecas and Shawnees	–	211	211				
Shawnees	–	1,272	887				
Sioux	25,000						

(3.)

Extract from a letter from Robert Stuart, Esq., of date March 29, 1844, *to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

2. That Isle Royale was *understandingly* included in the treaty is evident, both by its terms and the copy of my introductory talk, herewith enclosed. Besides, I traced the whole cession by a yellow line on a rough map we had before us at the first talk or council, as well as on closing the treaty. The only possible ground of subterfuge or quibble that can be resorted to is, that a small band of about 20 men, residing about the Grand Portage, and trading with the Hudson Bay Company, were not notified to attend the treaty, because they were believed to be British Indians. These came last fall to Lapointe, by invitation of Mr. Bronson, (as it is said,) and preferred their exclusive claim to Isle Royale, at the same time stating, as you will see by extract herewith of letter dated 25th January last, that "*they* are not American, but belong to the British." If so, we cannot, *I presume*, recognise their right to any lands within our borders. Their claim should be on the British Queen, who assigned the island to us by treaty. Should it prove that any of them belong to the United States, they are no doubt entitled to an equitable share of the annuities. You will perceive, by my talks or explanations at the treaty councils, that I would not recognise the Indians at all, by bands, as having exclusive right to the soil; and the Government must ever act on this principle, else a few of them may at any time frustrate its measures, as well as the action or decision of nineteen-twentieths of their own people.

(4.)

Extract of a letter of Robert Stuart, Esq., dated 21*st September*, 1844, *to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs.*

We found the Indians assembled at Lapointe, and under considerable excitement in relation to Isle Royale and some minor difficulties among themselves, all of which had their origin through the perverse and absurd conduct of men from whom there was reason to hope for better things. We succeeded, however, in bringing about peace and harmony in the tribe, and have obtained their full and free acknowledgment of the cession of Isle Royale, which you will perceive by the enclosed compact, signed by the chiefs and headmen of the nation, so that this question is now *forever set at rest.*

The annuity payments were made entirely to their satisfaction; and they have returned to their homes well supplied with the necessaries for the approaching winter, and contented and happy.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, April 5, 1844.

SIR: In consequence of the attempt made by a portion of the Chippewa nation, residing on the main land opposite Isle Royale, in Lake Superior

to set up a claim against the Government, relative to the possession of the said island, it has been thought advisable to instruct you to visit that part of the country, and adjust all difficulties that may have arisen.

As the commissioner appointed on the part of the Government to enter into a treaty with the Chippewas of the Lake Superior country, and having brought the negotiation to a successful termination, you are considered as the person peculiarly qualified to settle this question. No doubt exists in my mind, that the whole subject can be disposed of without trouble. The Indians ceded all the islands in the lake, and Isle Royale was one of them.

The views expressed in Mr. Bronson's letter of the 27th September last are totally at variance with the terms of the treaty. The idea of a small band of a large tribe like the Chippewas setting up a title to a particular island, which is not even in their possession, (for, according to the report of General Cunningham, it is uninhabited,) cannot be admitted. You negotiated the treaty; you know what was and what was not ceded; and the treaty itself is so plain in its terms, that the department feels satisfied that your interference will forever settle the matter.

Isle Royale, being at present thought peculiarly valuable on account of the mineral contained in its soil, has no doubt been represented as such to the Indians by designing men from one side of the line or the other. These meddlers in matters which do not concern them are to be found constantly at work in the Indian country, stirring up questions which are only intricate on account of the trouble they give. It behooves the Government to put them down, and at once assert its rights, by deciding the question at issue.

The views of this department are fully expressed in my report of 20th October last to the Secretary of War, to which I refer you, in the annual report of this office, (Appendix 2.)

It will probably be important that you should make some small presents of tobacco and ammunition, or other articles, to the Chippewa chiefs, when you assemble them to adjust this matter. If you should so think, you are authorized to expend not exceeding $200 in the purchase of such articles as will be suitable for distribution among them; making the expenditure as small as may consist with what is considered by the Indians to be proper on such occasions.

The time when your journey ought to be performed I must leave to yourself, as there is a new sub-agent for Lapointe, and he will require special instructions for distribution of the goods and provisions, as well as annuities. Perhaps if otherwise convenient, and not too far off, in your judgment, it might be well for you to go to Lake Superior, when the goods, &c., shall be transported and be received there.

This, if the Isle Royale affair will not suffer from delay, I think, would be the best plan.

* * * * * * * * *

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Sup't Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

—

Whereas a difference of opinion has heretofore existed between the United States and a portion of the Chippewa Indians of the Mississippi

and Lake Superior, in relation to the cession of Isle Royale, by the treaty concluded with them on the 4th day of October, 1842, at Lapointe, in the Territory of Wisconsin, be it therefore known, that the said Indians hereby declare themselves satisfied with the explanations now made by the commissioner of the United States, of the said Isle Royale having been included in the cession of that treaty, and by these presents they ratify and confirm the said cession. In consideration of which, and the regard which the President of the United States bears to his red children of the Chippewa nation, four hundred dollars worth of gunpowder and one hundred dollars worth of fresh beef shall be delivered to the said Indians, on their signing this compact.

In witness whereof, we hereunto set our hands, at Lapointe, this 20th day of August, A. D. 1844.

ROBERT STUART,
United States Commissioner.

Name	Mark	Band
Wab-ish-gag-gang-e,	his × mark,	Lac Flambeau.
She-mang-un-ish,	his × mark,	
Knisteno,	his × mark,	
Ude-kum-ag,	his × mark,	
Now-uj-e-wun,	his × mark,	
Medge-wok-gok-wud,	his × mark,	
Ah-mon-se,	his × mark,	
San-gan-e-may,	his × mark,	
Ke-che-wais-keenh,	his × mark,	Lapointe.
Tug-wug-aun-e,	his × mark,	
Mis-ia,	his × mark,	
Muk-ud-a-benase,	his × mark,	
Ke-che-waub-e-sash-e,	his × mark,	Pelican Lake.
Nig-gig,	his × mark,	
Osh-kau-bay-wis,	his × mark,	Wisconsin River.
Kay-she-aush,	his × mark,	Lac Vieux Desert.
Rim-idj-wang-auk-wud,	his × mark,	
Bin-ash-een,	his × mark,	Ance-ke-we-we-non.
Ke-nen-ance,	his × mark,	
Bug-um-aug-un,	his × mark,	
O-kun-de-kun,	his × mark,	On-ton-a-gun.
Keesh-ke-tow-ug,	his × mark,	
Kay-bay-o-sad-un,	his × mark,	
Shin-goop,	his × mark,	Fond du Lac.
Nug-un-ub,	his × mark,	
Mon-go-sit,	his × mark,	
Kah-rum-dum-ah-winso,	his × mark,	Sandy Lake.
Win-je-ke-shik-uk,	his × mark,	
Bug-on-a-ke-shink,	his × mark,	Crow Wing.
Song-uk-um-ig,	his × mark,	
I-ansh-ow-eke-shik,	his × mark,	Red Cedar lake.
Otto-wance,	his × mark,	
Waub-o-geeg,	his × mark,	Gull Lake.
Na-quon-abe,	his × mark,	Mille Lac.
Be-dud,	his × mark,	
No-din,	his × mark,	

Name	Mark	Place
Shin-e-yah,	his × mark,	Puk-a-gum-o.
Boin-ance,	his × mark,	
Kow-e-tas-sy,	his × mark,	St. Croix District.
Ah-cab-ay,	his × mark,	
Ke-che-no-din,	his × mark,	
Gah-be-mah-be,	his × mark,	
Waub-e-sash-e,	his × mark,	Chippewa River.
Que-we-san-sish,	his × mark,	
Mah-een-gun,	his × mark,	
Ke-wan-se,	his × mark,	Lake Contereille.
Ke-che-be-nas-sy,	his × mark,	
Omad-ag-um-e,	his × mark,	Lake Chatac.
Nay-nuk-aung-abe,	his × mark,	
Ka-kake,	his × mark,	
Ky-aush-ke-bar,	his × mark,	
Shag-un-aush-eens,	his × mark,	Grand Portage.
Ad-dik-ons,	his × mark,	

In presence of—

Wm. McDonald.
Jno. Hulbert.
Cyrus Mendenhall.
Clement H. Beaulien.
Chas. H. Oakes.
J. Russell.
Jas. P. Hays, *United States Indian Sub-Agent.*
Wm. W. Warren, *Interpreter.*

(5.)

War Department,
Office Indian Affairs, April 10, 1844.

Sir: The unsettled condition of the Seminoles, who have been removed to the West, their interference with the possessions of other tribes, and the impossibility of their advancing one step in civilization until they set down on the land assigned to them by treaties, make it an imperative duty to arrange the difficulties between them and the Creeks, and to remove the obstacles they have interposed to their establishment where they have a right to remain.

The report made by me to the Secretary of War, on 26th July last, on some Creek complaints, explains at large the right of the Seminoles to be placed upon the Creek territory, and is so full on the subject, that, instead of reiterating it, I refer to that report (of which a copy was sent to the Creek agent) as placing the matter in what I am decidedly of opinion is its true light.

The object to be accomplished is, to remove the Seminoles off the Cherokee lands, or other lands that they are improperly and unjustly occupying, to the spot where they have a legitimate foothold. The difficulty is to prevail on them to go. They are understood to fear, that if they go upon the Creek district, and unite themselves with the Creek tribe, so as to merge

their own tribe, existence, interest, and destiny, in those of the Creeks, the latter, being so much more numerous, will control all their internal regulations and police, will make and execute all their laws in a spirit of Creek partiality, and reckless of Seminole rights; that they will be a powerless minority, incapable of righting their anticipated wrongs, and must suffer oppression and contumely without hope; that their persons may be punished, and their characters degraded, while they will be despoiled against right, but under cover of law, of whatever property they may be possessed. Their fears, it is supposed, are specially pointed to their slave property, to a part of which, and perhaps to much of which, the Creeks lay claim, alleging that their slaves, by absconding from them while they and the Seminoles were both east, and taking refuge among the latter, have been through a series of years by these and other means lost to their real owners, and come by lapse of time and force of circumstances, (the Florida war among them,) to be considered Seminole property. These slaves, if the Creek and Seminole interests and power should be blended, the latter apprehend, (and the apprehension is probably well founded,) will be taken from them by force and virtue of laws which the Creeks in their national councils will enact, as soon as their operation can be rendered effective in reclaiming slaves that they believe to be theirs. This, I have no doubt from all I can learn, is the great obstacle to the Seminoles settling down quietly in the Creek country. There are other differences and difficulties to reconcile and obstacles to overcome, but this is the greatest. They make a further difficulty about their location in the Creek country. Mr. Judge (their sub-agent) reported, in October last, that they wish to concentrate on the north fork of the Canadian. I had hoped that with this branch of their concerns we should have had no further trouble. The location originally assigned them, under the treaties of 1832 and 1833, was between the main branch and north fork of the Canadian; and to enable the department to change it, and at the same time to relieve their existing destitution, I applied for and Congress passed a law on the 13th February, 1839, giving the requisite authority and $10,000. The duty of carrying out this law was imposed upon General Arbuckle and yourself. You reported, on 2d May, 1839, that the duty was discharged, and that a country was set apart, "by agreement with the chiefs of the Creek nation, for the Seminoles," about 35 miles from Fort Gibson, "between the deep fork or little fork and the north fork of the Canadian, so as to embrace a country equal in extent to the one the Seminoles were to have had in the Creek nation, between the main and north fork of the Canadian." This district you represented to be such as could scarcely fail to be satisfactory; to it many Seminoles removed. Alligator then objected to going, and endeavored, it is said, to prevent other Seminoles from going, to this selected spot. This is on or near the north fork, to which Mr. Judge says they now want to go; and, after what has been done to accommodate these unfortunate people, I hope they will be satisfied. To change again would be greatly to the prejudice of those who removed in 1839, and gain nothing for those who are yet to go. The whole matter is, however, committed to the discretion of the board, which this paper will constitute as a part of the general arrangement which it will be their duty to effect.

A letter has been recently received from you on the same subject, covering a communication from P. M. Butler, Esq., in relation to so many of the Seminoles as are within the Cherokee district.

This subject was fully considered on the receipt of Mr. Judge's letter of the 22d of October last, (already referred to,) and before that was the subject of conversation with yourself and (I think) Governor Butler, last summer. On Mr. Judge's letter, when it was received on the 18th of November, I made this endorsement: "Respectfully referred to the Secretary of War. I would recommend that commissioners, to consist of the acting superintendent, the different agents and sub-agents in the Indian territory, be appointed (indeed, this has been considered as settled by me heretofore) commissioners to meet Creeks and Seminoles, and settle the dispute between them about negro property, occupancy of the land, &c.; and that, in the mean time, there be no exploration, or at least no removal, for which there is a fund that might be applied.—November 18, 1843.—T. Hartley Crawford." Below which, the Secretary of War expressed his decision in the following words: "Recommendation of the Commissioner approved. War Department, December 7, 1843.—J. M. Porter."

The measure thus determined on, it is the object of this communication, to execute. Whether it will be most advisable to bring the Creeks and Seminoles together, or, having their repective chiefs in the immediate neighborhood of each other, to confer with them separately, and convey the views of each to the other, I am not sufficiently informed of their dispositions towards each other to decide. If they are on amicable terms, they had better meet; but there may be some danger of the discussion of their respective pretensions inflaming them to a degree of unfitness for business.

You will therefore convene the agents of the Chickasaws, of the Cherokees, and of the Creeks, and the sub-agents of the Neosho and of the Seminoles, who, with yourself as its head, will constitute a commission for adjusting the Creek and Seminole difficulties. Any number of this commission, you being present, is authorized to conduct and conclude the negotiations, so as to guard against all contingencies (except the single one of your own absence) that might prevent or interrupt the conferences contemplated. It is not intended that we shall incur any expense in settling this matter. The chiefs need only be present, it is presumed; and I am not aware of any necessity there can well be for expending money, and nothing short of necessity would justify it in the attainment of no important object. Neither yourself nor your co-commissioners can be allowed any thing beyond your actual travelling expenses.

The leading object, and the great obstacle to the adjustment in view, is the controversy about the ownership of the negroes, or some of them, in the possession of the Seminoles. It is believed assurances were given to some of the Seminoles in Florida, that, when sent west, they should retain the negroes sent with them, and be protected in such retention. As far as these assurances went, they ought to be complied with. I suggest the following, as the form of a compact between the Creeks and Seminoles, which may be pursued substantially, if agreeable to the parties, or varied to suit their wishes in any particular, or dropped altogether, and such other arrangement made as may be more agreeable to them:

"Whereas the Creek and Seminole tribes of Indians are connected by blood, and there is a similarity of language and usage in both; and whereas the treaty provisions on this subject stipulate (article 4, of treaty of February 14, 1833,) 'that the Seminole Indians of Florida, whose removal to this country is provided for by their treaty with the United States dated May 9, 1832, shall also have a permanent and comfortable

home on the lands hereby set apart as the country of the Creek nation, and they (the Seminoles) will hereafter be considered a constituent part of the said nation, but are to be located on some part of the Creek country by themselves'—as naturally resulting from the ties which draw them close to each other; and whereas this stipulation and this community of territory prevent their having separate Governments, and it is reasonable that the Creeks, as the original holders of the land and oldest occupants of it, as well as because they are much the most numerous tribe, should take the lead, and their Government and laws prevail and extend over both nations, to be altered, modified, or repealed, according to the pleasure of the two tribes united:

"Art. 1. It is therefore agreed by the undersigned, chiefs and headmen of the Seminole Indians, that they will no longer interpose any objections to removing upon that portion of the Creek country heretofore assigned to them by Major William Armstrong and General M. Arbuckle, under the act of Congress of the 13th February, 1839, and will do so immediately after the execution of this compact, provided the United States will pay not exceeding —— per head, through its agents, for so many as shall remove from any other Indian district in the Western Territory to the Creek district, according to the engagement in this article, to defray the expenses attending said removal.

"Art. 2. In consideration whereof, and to prevent all future ground of dissension, so that the two tribes may become one in interest and feeling as well as in name, the Creeks hereby agree and pledge themselves that the property (of what kind soever it may be) which was conveyed with the Seminoles from Florida, or from their present position, to the Creek country, or which shall be so conveyed, shall not be liable to attachment, or to be taken from them, upon any claim, or pretence of claim, founded upon any title antecedent to the emigration or removal of the Seminoles, without the sanction of the President of the United States."

This, or something equivalent to it, will settle the matter, I think, and rid us of an annoyance, the Cherokees of a burden, and the Seminoles of a state of uncertainty as to the future, under which they must retrograde instead of advancing. In urging this matter upon them, the Seminoles should be given to understand, that, if they will come into no satisfactory arrangement, they must go into the Creek country, and come under Creek laws, which the Government will be compelled to oblige them to do, out of regard to the rights and interests of the other Indians upon whose lands they are now trespassing.

If the Creeks interpose objections to such an arrangement, they must be reminded of their treaty obligations to receive the Seminoles on their land; and that, too, without any condition as to property brought with them, or the ownership of which depends upon title acquired before their emigration. Of this, I have heretofore (viz: in the report of 26th July) fully informed them. They should further be told, that the United States would protect the Seminoles in the property so by them brought into the Creek territory, &c.

The security that will be thus afforded to the Seminoles will probably induce their acquiescence in all other particulars in the views of the Creeks, and their coming in under the Creek laws, &c. I suppose there may be some cases of Creek right to and property in negroes, that are in Seminole possession, so clear and palpable that they should obtain the slaves; but I

apprehend any attempt at inserting such a provision in the compact between these tribes would be fatal to its consummation; and if the Creeks can be persuaded to an agreement without an exception or condition in it, I am sure it will be best for the quiet and ultimate prosperity of all; for, so long as one case of controverted slave property exists, it will excite the parties, and retard their improvement more or less.

The Creeks will be benefited by having this agitating question settled. The Seminole tribe, which is to be merged in the body of the Creeks, will enlarge the population, increase the wealth of their community, and, in various ways, contribute to extend the boundary of their improving condition.

These, and many other considerations that belong to this important and interesting subject, will be used by the commission to bring about the desired result. Upon the prudence, conciliation, sagacity, and judgment, of yourself and those associated with you, I rely much. A thousand occasions for pressing home a good argument will present themselves, which it is impossible to anticipate, but of which a capable negotiator will avail himself on the instant, and I trust and believe they will not be unimproved by you.

It may be indispensable, in executing such an arrangement as I confidently anticipate you will make, to expend a small sum in removing the Seminoles from their present locations to the Creek country; and it shall be supplied when the proper time arrives, and an estimate is furnished of the amount required, and the number of Indians to be removed who may require aid. The most rigid economy must, however, be consulted in this expenditure; for it must be recollected that we have already transported these people at great cost from Florida; and that whatever further expense shall be now incurred will arise out of their own pertinacious refusal to go upon the land allotted to them. The distance being very short, the amount required cannot but be small—wagons can only be wanted to carry their baggage, which is not much, or to carry the few sick among them. The rules of a rigid economy, proper as they are on all occasions, must be enforced. Still, I would by no means be guilty of any inhumanity towards them, nor so much as harshness; but it is a case in which our expenditure should be kept within the limits of furnishing what would be required at the hands of a humane and Christian people.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Major William Armstrong,
Acting Super't Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency west of Ark.

(6.)

Department of War,
Office Indian Affairs, May 20, 1844.

Sir: By the treaty of 9th May, 1832, with the Seminoles, and of 14th February, 1833, with the Creeks, the Seminoles became entitled to "have a comfortable home on the lands hereby set apart as the country of the Creek nation," which was located and fixed by the compact with the Seminoles of 28th March, 1833, between the Canadian river and the north fork thereof; but, by authority of an act of Congress, passed on 13th February, 1839, subsequently changed, under the direction of General Arbuckle

and Major William Armstrong, to a position between the deep fork of the Canadian and the Arkansas river. This, it was not doubted, would be satisfactory to all parties, nor am I aware that it is now objected to on the score of locality.

The treaties above referred to contemplate a union of the Creek and Seminole tribes, which will be a merger of the latter in the former, who will (if the project were carried out) make the laws and govern the joint concern by reason of their great superiority in point of numbers. To this the Seminole delegation now here object, and wish the tract of land that shall be allotted to them to be separated (if in the Creek district) from the land that the Creeks shall occupy, and made Seminole property, subject to their exclusive occupancy, and to be under their own exclusive jurisdiction. This can only be done by a treaty tripartite between the United States, Creeks, and Seminoles. I have some time since instructed a commission (to consist of the acting superintendent of the Western Territory, and the different agents and sub-agents of his superintendency) to enter upon negotiations with the Creeks and Seminoles about the adjustment of the difficulties between them. If I had the authority of the President and yourself, for instructing the commission to extend their efforts to the arranging of the land location and its jurisdiction, as herein recited, and as desired by the Seminoles, perhaps it may be effected. At all events it ought, in my opinion, to be attempted, and I will have great pleasure in making the attempt if the suggestion is approved.

I do not calculate on giving any thing to the Creeks for what is certainly a favor to the Seminoles, out of the United States Treasury, nor anticipate that any consideration will be exacted from the Seminoles by the Creeks for the agreement; but it may be well to say to the commissioners, that the Seminoles will be entitled to receive $15,400 as soon as Congress appropriates them; and that, if indispensable, a part of this will be made the consideration of the concession by the Creeks, with, of course, the full understanding and consent of the Seminoles.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM WILKINS,
Secretary of War.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, June 17, 1844.

SIR: I send you a copy of a communication made by me to the Secretary of War, on the 20th ultimo, which was returned to me to-day with other papers, on which is written: "Approved.—William Wilkins.—War Department, June 15, 1844."

You will perceive, by the foregoing paper, that the object is to furnish the Seminoles with a country exclusively their own, and under their own distinct and exclusive jurisdiction. This the delegation lately here insist on. This step can only be taken of course with the consent of the full Seminole tribe now west, as well as of the Creeks. A treaty for this purpose will be necessary to be made by the three parties interested, viz: the Creeks of one part, the Seminoles of the second, and we, (the United States,) concerned to preserve the peace between them, to advance their civilization and promote their general interests. The first step will be to

induce the Creeks to agree to this measure. A letter received here on the 8th instant, from Roly McIntosh, Ufalla Hadjo, and B. Marshall, of which I send you a copy, expresses very decided hostility to this separation of their landed interests, which it will require great delicacy and care to overcome; but I think, upon free explanation and reasoning, it must become apparent to them that their several interests will be much promoted by a separation. To effect this, and one or two other objects which I will advert to presently, you and the agents of the Cherokees, Creeks, and Chickasaws, and sub-agents of the Seminoles and Neosho, are hereby clothed with full authority, in addition and according to the detailed instructions of the 19th of April last. I hope this distinct and exclusively separate location for the Seminoles will be accorded to them by the Creeks without money compensation—the land to equal in quantity, as it must, I suppose, unless the Seminoles agree to take less than what has been heretofore allotted to them. The United States can pay nothing for the concession to the Seminoles spoken of, and I am anxious nothing that will diminish their small money means should be exacted from them, for they are poor, and just now in a pitiable condition; and, after all the trouble they have given us, they are a bold manly race, that one cannot help respecting. If, however, some pecuniary return should be insisted on by the Creeks, $15,400, payable to the Seminoles under the second article of the treaty of Payne's Landing, of the 9th of May, 1832, may be soon now paid, retaining a proportion for the Indians still in Florida. Of this sum, a part might be devoted by the Seminoles to induce the Creeks to agree to their entirely separate establishment; but this, remember, is only suggested by me as a last resort, and even then it can only be done with the consent, freely and understandingly given, of the Seminoles.

The report of General Jesup, of which a copy accompanies this communication, besides treating of the land concerns of the Seminoles, refers to slaves (with regard to whom your instructions of the 19th of April are full) and abandoned property. The copy of the letter of Roly McIntosh, Ufalla Hadjo, and B. Marshall, seems to place their controversy about slave property in a rather more favorable position than I have heretofore supposed it to occupy. As to abandoned property, I think, from General Jesup's report, they are clearly entitled to be paid something, and, if a tripartite treaty is made, you are authorized to stipulate that $5,000* will be paid them in full of all claims of every description on the United States for lost property, and a release to this effect to be inserted in the treaty; one-half of the said sum to be paid, and (because of the impossibility of ascertaining the owners of property abandoned or lost, or its amount) divided equally among the members of the tribe now west, to heads of families; and the remaining $2,500 to be laid out, by the same process of distribution, in the purchase of agricultural implements, so soon as they shall have removed to the country which the Creeks and the Seminoles shall agree, with the consent of the United States, shall be allotted to the separate occupancy and government of the Seminoles. This, I suggest, would quiet the claim set forth by General Jesup; and Mr. Judge concurred with me in thinking it would be satisfactory, though it is not so much as a

* There have been delivered to them (per instructions of July 17, 1841) axes and hoes, promised them by General Jesup, to the amount of $953 20, under your own direction; and there were paid to them, for valuations of cattle, in 1835, 1836, and 1838, the amount of $3,929.

memorandum, (taken from the mouths of the Seminole delegation lately in Washington, by General Jesup,) and that I think not, indeed it could not be, full, would make their claim.

It will be necessary to agree, on behalf of the United States, to incur a small expense in the removal of the Seminoles to the district of country that, it is ardently hoped, will, by common consent, be set apart for their uncontrolled use; and, further, to furnish provisions to them after their arrival on it. These expenditures we shall be compelled to agree to; the whole project must otherwise fail of execution; and it concerns the peace and happiness of the Indians, and the economical administration of Indian affairs, that the negotiations you are empowered to open with the Creeks and Seminoles should result in an arrangement that will be agreeable to all parties, and finally settle their difficulties with each other. As small an amount must be stipulated for to remove them, and as short a supply of rations must be engaged for, as they will consent to accept. It must be recollected that we have once already paid for their removal from Florida to the West, and that we have also heretofore fed them for a year. Without saying positively that it must be so, I think to furnish these rations for six months ought to satisfy them.

These instructions are to be taken in conjunction with those of the 19th of April last, and either or both followed, as may be found practicable.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Choctaw Agency.

JULY 1, 1844.

In conformity to my understanding with the Secretary of War, when conferring with the Seminole delegation lately in Washington, I have instructed, by letter of 17th June last, Major W. Armstrong and his co-commissioners to treat with the Creeks and Seminoles for a separate and distinct land district for the residence of the latter; instructed them to stipulate for the payment of $5,000 for the Seminole losses spoken of in General Jesup's report, and to agree to incur a small expense in the removal of the Seminoles to such land as shall be allotted to them, and furnish them with rations after their removal for as short a time as they will agree to. I respectfully request the Secretary's written authority and confirmation of what is done.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Approved:
WILLIAM WILKINS.

(7.)

WASHINGTON, *February* 15, 1844.

SIR: For the purpose of enabling you advisedly to take such further action in the premises as you may think meet and proper, and at the particular request of one of the Senators from Ohio, I make the following statement from my recollection of the facts:

At the 2d session of the 27th Congress, when the bill making appropriations to carry into effect the Wyandot treaty was under consideration in the Senate, an amendment was moved, appropriating a sum of money to pay for the improvements according to the appraisement of Messrs. Kirby and Wheeler. Objections being made to the appraisement as out of all due proportion, and extravagantly high, the motion was, by a large vote, overruled, and the appropriation disallowed on such appraisement.

The exigency of the treaty requires, in the opinion of the undersigned, (in consequence of such decision of the Senate,) the appointment of a new commission, to ascertain the value of those improvements.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. S. WHITE,
Of the Committee on Indian Affairs.

To the PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, February 20, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * *

I have always thought, and do now think, the valuation of those improvements most exorbitant, but believed, as stated in my report, that unless there was fraud, and perhaps I ought to have added, or mistake, the Government was fixed for the amount.

In this opinion your predecessors concurred. So extravagant do I regard the valuation reported to be, that I will be glad if it shall be determined that a new one can be legally ordered.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

Hon. WILLIAM WILKINS,
Secretary of War.

(8.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, March 29, 1844.

GENTLEMEN: By direction of the President of the United States, you have been appointed appraisers under the 5th article of the treaty of 1842 with the Wyandot Indians.

That article is as follows: "The United States agree to pay the Wyandots the full value of their improvements in the country hereby ceded by them in Ohio and Michigan; which valuation shall be made by two persons to be appointed by the President of the United States, who shall be sworn faithfully to do justice to the parties; the amount of such valuation to be paid at any time after the 1st day of April, 1843, as shall be acceptable to the Wyandot chiefs, to meet their arrangements for emigrating."

To carry out the stipulations of that article, appraisers were appointed on 3d November, 1842, who were instructed to repair to the Wyandot country in Ohio and Michigan, and visit each improvement to be valued,

and, by a personal examination, ascertain its true value, designating in a tabular statement the particular description of property, as houses, enclosures, fruit trees, &c., the whole to be extended in an aggregate opposite the name of each individual. The report of those appraisers has been received, and the amount of the improvements, so far exceeding their supposed value, is regarded as enormous, and far beyond the real value of such improvements. What data governed them in arriving at that value is not known here, but the prices at which they appraised the respective improvements are apparently so exorbitant, that the department is compelled, from a sense of duty, to order a reappraisement of all the improvements, and for that purpose you have been appointed. In this way the correctness of the first valuation can be tested, and in this way only.

I send herewith a copy of the appraisements made by your predecessors, and have to request that you make a personal inspection and examination of each of the improvements designated on that return, and designate the same in a tabular statement, showing the value of each description of improvements, and carry the aggregate of them, respectively, into an outer column.

Should it become necessary, in your opinion, to have any assistance in this business with reference to ascertaining the locality of any of the improvements, and to identify the former occupants and owners, and this aid will facilitate the completion of your labors, it is presumed that you can obtain it from persons living in the immediate neighborhood of the scene of your operations, and that, too, without cost to the Government. But if I am mistaken in this, and the assistance cannot be had without cost, you are authorized to employ, temporarily, not exceeding two persons, who will be paid, upon your certificate, for the number of days actually and necessarily employed, at the rate of $2 50 per day, to cover services and expenses.

Before entering upon your duties, you will take the oath prescribed in the fifth article of the treaty, which you will forward to this office.

* * * * * * * * *

In conclusion, I have to request that you will confer with each other as to time and place of meeting, and, after having fixed all preliminary matters, that you at once repair to the scene of operations. It is very important to the claimants of the improvements, that your report should be here to submit to Congress, at its present session, for an appropriation.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

JOHN CALDWELL.
SAMUEL WAGGONER.

(9.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,

Office Indian Affairs, September 21, 1844.

SIR: I deem it to be my duty, in the absence of the Secretary of War, to submit, for your action, a report recently received from the agents appointed by your direction to reappraise the improvements on the land ceded to the United States by the Wyandots, by treaty of the 17th of March, 1842.

The fifth article of the treaty is as follows: "The United States agree to pay the Wyandots the full value of their improvements in the country hereby ceded by them in Ohio and Michigan, which valuation shall be made by two persons, to be appointed by the President of the United States, who shall be sworn faithfully to do justice to the parties; the amount of such valuation to be paid at any time after the 1st day of April, 1843, as shall be acceptable to the Wyandot chiefs, to meet their arrangements for emigrating."

That you may be informed of what action was originally had under that article, I beg leave to submit a copy of a report of the 20th of February, 1844, made by me to the Secretary of War.

Subsequently, it was determined to have the improvements re-examined, and on the 29th of March last instructions to do so were given to John Caldwell and Samuel Waggoner, Esqs., with whom was afterwards associated James Justice, Esq. A copy of their instructions is sent herewith.

The report of the first valuers amounts to - - -	$127,094 24
That of the agents who re-examined the improvements to -	66,941 00
Showing a difference of - - - - -	60,153 24

The sales of the lands commence, according to proclamation, on 14th proximo in Ohio, and on 7th in Michigan; and it is important that the Commissioner of the General Land Office be informed as early as is practicable of the valuation put on the improvements on the respective tracts.

In view of the foregoing, I deem it essential to add, that a general comparison of the first and second appraisements has been made in this office, as is shown by the statement sent herewith, exhibiting discrepancies between them; for instance, the last appraisement in many cases designates the owners of improvements to have had more *houses* than appear on the first valuation; again, claimants are named in last appraisement who do not appear in the first one, and vice versa. These discrepancies are not explained by the appraising agents.

The subject is therefore respectfully submitted for your decision, whether, under the circumstances stated, the late appraisement shall be regarded as correct, and made the data to guide the land office in making sales; or, whether the proposed sales shall be postponed for a short time, and the report be returned to the agents, with direction to review it, and make the necessary explanations in relation to the discrepancies referred to.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

To the President of the United States.

(10.)

War Department,

Office Indian Affairs, January 26, 1844.

Sir: I have the honor to present the original agreement of 14th December last, by which the Wyandots have purchased of the Delawares their title or interest in a body of land west of the State of Missouri.

These papers are sent by the sub-agent of the Wyandots to the superin-

tendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, who submitted them to the department.

The only question involved in disposing of them is, whether the purchase must be ratified by the President and Senate, or whether the approval of the President will be sufficient. The 12th section of the law of 1802, and the 12th section of the act of 1834, very nearly in the same words, enact, "That no purchase, grant, lease, or other conveyance of lands, or of any title or claim thereto, from any Indian nation or tribe of Indians, shall be of any validity in law or equity, unless the same be made by a treaty or convention, entered into pursuant to the Constitution. The requirement is, that a purchase, &c., within the intent of the law, must be ratified by the President, on the advice and consent of two-thirds of the Senate.

It is presumed that the object of the law was to prevent purchases by white persons or communities, because the reversionary interest of the United States could be affected by such acquisitions only—not by the title they would have, but the difficulty and embarrassment of asserting an opposite one. In the case of a purchase by an Indian tribe from another, the objection, that is, the reason of the law, does not hold. Each can claim to be the owners only so long as they live on the land, and the purchase working not even an apparent change in the quality of the tenure.

In cases where the United States had no interest in the land, but merely looked on to see, as the guardian of the Indians, that justice was done them, the approbation of the President has been thought sufficient, without the advice and consent of the Senate thereto. Of this, an instance will be found in the purchase of Greig & Gibson, from the Senecas, in September, 1823. (Vol. of Treaties, page 305; Indian Treaties, Laws, &c., published in 1826, page of table of contents 6.) To this the ratification of the convention between the Choctaws and Chickasaws in 1837, (vol. of Treaties, 697,) by the President and Senate, affords no contradiction, for the preamble to the instrument provided in terms that it should be subject to the approval of the President and Senate of the United States."

In the present instance, the agreement between the Wyandots and Delawares stipulates that it shall not be binding or obligatory until the President of the United States shall have approved the same, and caused it to be recorded in the War Department.

The land which is granted to the Wyandots is part of that secured to the Delawares as a permanent residence by the treaty of 24th September, 1829. The agreement lately made grants the land "to the Wyandot nation and their heirs, forever." I do not think these words convey more than a title by occupancy. The Delawares could not convey more than they had; and if they could, a nation cannot have heirs. But to guard against any possible ill consequence, if the President thinks fit to give his approval, it might be with a qualification, reserving the reversionary interest of the United States.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

Hon. J. M. Porter,
Secretary of War.

(11.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,
Office Indian Affairs, May 11, 1844.

SIR: I have received your letter of 29th ultimo, transmitting a communication from the Wyandot chiefs, who have selected a tract of land which they request may be set apart for them, under the 2d article of the treaty of 1842, with that tribe. I have examined the locality of the land described by the chiefs, and find that it has already been set apart for Indian use, viz: to the Miamies and Six Nations of New York Indians, by treaties with them in 1838 and 1840.

It would seem to be the proper construction of the treaty, that the United States never contemplated to give the Wyandots a tract of land to dispose of at their will and pleasure, and without occupying it for agricultural purposes themselves. The fact that they have applied for the confirmation of the proper office to the agreement made by them with the Delawares, for the purchase of an adequate quantity of land, on which it is presumed they now reside, pre-supposes that they did not intend to avail themselves of the land tendered by the Government, but preferred to select other land, and pay for it out of their own resources.

It is my earnest request that you inform the Wyandots, through their sub-agent, of the views above expressed, and ascertain from them whether they still intend to remain on the Delaware lands, or whether they are disposed to go to the lands which the Government, under the treaty, may allot them. There is vacant land between the Delawares and the Otoes, and west of the Kickapoos, not yet set apart to any Indian tribe, on which the Wyandots may be located. Some portion of it may have been recently selected by Major Cummins for the Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi; of that fact you can inform them. There is also land west of the site for the New York Indians, and north of the Osages, and west of the Pottawatomies of Osage river, that can be provided for them.

Very, &c.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent, &c., St. Louis, Missouri.

P. S. The land which the Wyandots requested to be selected for them, and which has been assigned to the Miamies and New York Indians, is described thus: "Beginning three miles south of where the western line of the State of Missouri crosses the Great Osage river, thence running due west fifteen miles, thence north fifteen miles, or as far north as will include the 148,000 acres, thence east to the aforesaid State line."

—

WYANDOT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY,
Near Westport, June 30, 1844.

SIR: Mr. J. Haverty's letter from your office, dated the 25th of May, 1844, enclosing instructions from the Commissioner of Indian Affairs at Washington city, in regard to the proper construction of the treaty between the United States and the Wyandot nation or tribe of Indians, concerning

their land locations, came to hand on the 8th instant. The chiefs met in council on the 12th, and I laid the subject before them. Runners had been sent out to collect the nation together. The people assembled in the course of the day, and were informed by the chiefs that the land which they selected last winter could not be obtained, the same having been appropriated to the Miamies and Six Nations of New York Indians. The people were then dismissed, and, after considerable consultation among the chiefs, they informed me that they would take the subject into consideration, and report their conclusion as soon as convenient.

On the 26th instant the council again met, all the chiefs being present. The subject was again introduced, and considerable discussion ensued, during which much warmth of feeling was manifested. In conclusion, the chiefs requested me to make to the department the following statement:

"Tell our father that we have had the subject contained in his letter under consideration, and have not yet been able to come to a conclusion or to make a definite answer to the questions he propounds, not having had time to examine the lands which the Government proposes to allot to us. The fact has been communicated to us by the Commissioner, that the land which we lately selected has been appropriated to other tribes; and, as other lands have been proffered to us, it is our intention to examine them. If we see any in said tracts that will suit us, we will then let our father know. We are not at present prepared to say positively whether we will remain on the Delaware land or not. We will go and see the land pointed out west of the Kickapoos. Last August, we went to see the lands of the Pottawatomies on the Osage river, and the Osages would not let us view it. They told us that the Government had not yet paid them for the land, and that it belonged to themselves until paid for. We will avail ourselves of an opportunity of viewing the tracts of land described during this summer and next fall, and report the result."

Attest:

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
U. S. Interpreter.

I earnestly requested the chiefs to make known to the Wyandot people the proposition contained in the Commissioner's letter, viz: "Whether they still intend to remain on the Delaware land, and pay for it out of their own resources, or whether they are disposed to go to the lands which the Government, under the treaty, may allot them." They carefully avoided putting the question to the people in this way, knowing that many of the Wyandots preferred settling on the Government land to paying for the Delaware land out of their annuity. The Delaware land which they at present occupy is beautiful, high, rolling, and decidedly the best site for a city and port which I have seen on the Mississippi or Missouri rivers; it adjoins the Missouri State line, and is very valuable. I have been induced to believe that the chiefs and half breeds bargained with the Delawares for this land in the first place, without consulting the wishes of their people, and for the object of selling it to the Government in a few years at a great advance. There are some white men, too, who have married Wyandot women, that are very tenacious in the matter. From its location advantages, it appears to me that this will be the first land which the Government will find it necessary to possess; and the chiefs and half breeds seem to be under the same impression, and are making their cal-

culations accordingly. Their calculation has been to pay for this land out of the annuity fund, speculate on it, and at the same time hold a claim to the land which the treaty gives them for a final home. The * * * * * * * * were in council with the chiefs, and one of them used very menacing language against the Government—such as raising the hatchet, Florida war, &c. These men have fattened and got rich among the Indians; they are the principal advisers of the chiefs, and wield an influence which it is difficult to keep within proper bounds. They have given me much trouble and vexation of spirit. I have therefore thought it important to apprize the department of the inflammable materials among the Wyandots.

* * * * * * * * *

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JONATHAN PHILLIPS,
Indian Sub-Agent for Wyandots.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis.

(12.)

Statement showing the amount drawn between the 30th June, 1843, and the 30th June, 1844, inclusive, on account of appropriations for the service of the Indian department for the half calendar year ending the 30th June, 1843, and the balance remaining undrawn.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount drawn between June 30, 1843, and June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:			
Chippewas of Saginaw	Education	$250 00	
Choctaws	Do	7,250 00	$3,750 00
Creeks	Do	73 55	740 11
Chickasaws	Do	998 16	2,831 52
Delawares	Interest on $46,080, at 5 per cent.	2,304 00	
Florida Indians	Education	1 54	243 85
Miamies	Do	24 77	349 53
Ottowas and Chippewas	Annuity, education, missions, vaccine matter, and wood for dormitory	3,821 46	853 54
Osages	Interest on $69,120, at 5 per cent.	–	261 26
Pottawatomies of Indiana	Education	436 91	517 35
Pawnees	Annuity	3,785 00	
Quapaws	Education	–	500 00
Yancton and Santie Sioux	Blacksmith, &c., and agricultural assistance	–	980 00
Winnebagoes	Interest on $1,100,000, at 5 per cent.	3,850 00	
		22,795 39	11,027 16

Statement showing the amount drawn between the 30*th June,* 1843, *and the* 30*th June,* 1844, *inclusive, on account of appropriations, per act* 3*d March,* 1843, *for other purposes than the foregoing, and the balance remaining undrawn.*

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount drawn between June 30, 1843, and June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Current expenses of Indian department.	Provisions - - -	$309 50	$1,080 98
Removal of New York Indians -	Removal of 250, &c. - -	-	20,477 50
Removal of Choctaws, &c. -	Removal of Choctaws west of Mississippi.	-	57,490 00
Subsistence of Choctaw claimants, &c.	Subsistence, &c. - -	3,169 50	6,830 50
Carrying into effect treaty with Chippewas of Mississippi.	Blacksmith, farmers, carpenters, schools, and agricultural fund, &c.	3,400 00	3,500 00
Carrying into effect treaty with Sac and Fox Indians, of 11th October, 1842.	Compensation to commissioner, and expenses of running the boundary line, and payment of the debts.	10,089 75	680 25
Expenses of negotiating with Kanzas Indians, or other tribes on the Missouri, for a tract of land.	For the permanent residence of the Sacs and Foxes, &c.	1,050 00	
Civilization of Indians - -	- - - - - -	7,042 50	1,155 00
		25,061 25	91,214 23

Statement showing the amount appropriated for the service of the Indian department for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844; and the amount drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive; and the balance remaining undrawn.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commenc'g July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844.	Total amount appropriated.	Am't drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:					
Christian Indians	For permanent annuity	$400 00	$400 00	$400 00	
Chippewas of Mississippi	For payment in money	9,500 00			
Do do	For payment in goods	19,000 00			
Do do	For establishing three blacksmiths' shops, &c.	3,000 00			
Do do	For support of farmers, &c.	1,000 00			
Do do	For purchase of provisions	2,000 00			
Do do	For purchase of tobacco	500 00	35,000 00	34,500 00	$500 00
Chippewas of Saginaw	For permanent annuity	2,800 00			
Do do	For support of blacksmith at Saginaw	2,000 00			
Do do	For education	1,000 00	5,800 00	5,550 00	250 00
Chippewas, Menomonies, Winnebagoes, and New York Indians	For education	1,500 00	1,500 00	1,500 00	
Cheppewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies	For permanent annuity	16,000 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity	14,000 00			
Do do do	For limited annuity	2,000 00			

STATEMENT—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specific objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commenc'g July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844.	Total amount appropriated.	Am't drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:					
Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies	For life annuity to three chiefs	$700 00			
Do do do	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, &c., and for purchase of salt	1,190 00			
			$33,890 00	$33,890 00	
Choctaws	For permanent annuities, viz: $3,000, $600, $6,000	9,600 00			
Do	For life annuities to a chief, $150; to three district chiefs, $750	900 00			
Do	For limited annuity	20,000 00			
Do	For life annuity to two Wayne warriors	50 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant, $600; iron and steel, $320	920 00			
Do	For three blacksmiths and assistants	2,520 00			
Do	For iron and steel	960 00			
Do	For education of 40 youths, &c.	12,500 00			
			47,450 00	36,150 00	$11,300 00
Creeks	For permanent annuities, viz: $1,500, $3,000, $20,000	24,500 00			
Do	For limited annuity	10,000 00			
Do	For life annuity to two chiefs	300 00			
Do	For blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, &c.	4,440 00			
Do	For wheelwright and assistant, or wagon maker	1,200 00			
Do	For agricultural implements	2,000 00			
Do	For education	4,000 00			
Do	For interest, sixth year, on $350,000, at 5 per cent.	17,500 00			
			63,940 00	61,456 94	2,483 06
Chickasaws	For permanent annuity	3,000 00			
Do	For education	3,000 00			
			6,000 00	3,511 32	2,488 68
Cherokees	For four blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, and wagon maker and wheelwright	5,640 00			
			5,640 00	5,640 00	
Delawares	For permanent annuities, viz: $1,000, $500, $4,000, $1,000	6,500 00			
Do	For life annuity to two chiefs, $200; ditto to three chiefs, $300	500 00			
Do	For purchase of salt, $100; blacksmith and assistant, $720; iron and steel, $220	1,040 00			
Do	For interest on $46,080, at 5 per cent.	2,304 00			
			10,344 00	8,040 00	2,304 00
Florida Indians	For blacksmith and assistant	1,000 00			
			1,000 00	1,000 00	
Iowas	For one year's interest on $157,500, at 5 per cent.	7,875 00			
			7,875 00	5,441 50	2,433 50
Kickapoos	For limited annuity	5,000 00			
			5,000 00	5,000 00	
Kanzas	For limited annuity, $3,500, blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $940; agricultural assistance, $1,600	6,040 00			
			6,040 00	6,040 00	
Miamies	For permanent annuity, $25,000; seventh of ten instalments, $10,000	35,000 00			
Do	For sixth of ten instalments, $12,568, and third of twenty instalments, $12,500	25,068 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $940; tobacco, iron and steel, $770; miller in lieu of gunsmith, $600	2,310 00			
Do	For 160 bushels salt, $320; agricultural assistance, $200; payment in lieu of laborers, $250; education, $2,000	2,770 00			
			65,148 00	65,148 00	
Eel Rivers, (Miamies)	For permanent annuities, $500, $250, $350	1,100 00			
			1,100 00	1,100 00	
Menomonies	For limited annuities, $6,000, $20,000	26,000 00			
Do	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $1,880; provisions, $3,000; tobacco, $300, farming utensils, &c., $500	5,680 00			
Do	For thirty barrels salt, $150	150 00			
			31,830 00	31,830 00	
Omahas	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $940; agricultural implements, $500	1,440 00			
			1,440 00	1,440 00	
Ottowas and Chippewas	For limited annuity	30,000 00			
Do do	For interest on $200,000	12,000 00			
Do do	For eighth of ten instalments	500 00			

STATEMENT—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commenc'g July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844.	Total amount appropriated.	Am't drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:					
Ottowas and Chippewas - -	For education, $5,000; missions, $3,000; vaccine matter, &c., $300; provisions, $2,000 - - - - -	$10,300 00			
Do do - -	For tobacco, $975; 100 barrels salt, $350; fish barrels, $750 -	2,075 00			
Do do - -	For three blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, $2,820; gunsmith, and iron and steel, $820 - - - - -	3,640 00			
Do do - -	For keeper of dormitory and wood, $1,050; two farmers and assistants, $1,600; two mechanics, $1,200 - - - -	3,850 00	$62,365 00	$56,540 00	$5,825 00
Otoes and Missourias - -	For limited annuity - - - - - - -	2,500 00			
Do do - -	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $940; agricultural implements, $500; education, $500; two farmers, $1,200 -	3,140 00	5,640 00	5,640 00	
Osages - - -	For limited annuity, $20,000 - - - - - -	20,000 00			
Do - - -	For interest on $69,120, at 5 per cent. - - - - -	3,456 00			
Do - - -	For support of two smiths' establishments, $2,000; two millers, $1,200; two assistants, $450; cows, &c., $7,300 - -	10,950 00	34,406 00	23,650 00	10,756 00
Ottowas - - -	For permanent annuities, $1,000, $800, $1,500, $1,000 -	4,300 00	4,300 00	4,093 69	206 31
Pottawatomies - - -	For permanent, limited, and life annuities - - -	9,100 00			
Do - - -	For education, $3,000; salt, $460; blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, $1,880 - - - - - - -	5,340 00			
Do - - -	For tobacco, iron and steel, $400; laborers, $360 - -	760 00	15,200 00	15,200 00	
Pottawatomies of Huron -	For permanent annuity - - - - - - -	400 00	400 00	-	400 00
Pottawatomies of the Prairie -	For limited annuity, $15,000; life annuity to two chiefs, $400 -	15,400 00	15,400 00	15,400 00	
Pottawatomies of the Wabash -	For limited annuity - - - - - - -	20,000 00	20,000 00	20,000 00	
Pottawatomies of Indiana -	For limited annuity - - - - - - -	15,000 00			
Do do - -	For education - - - - - - - -	2,000 00	17,000 00	15,192 93	1,807 07
Piankeshaws - - -	For permanent annuities, $500 and $300 - - -	800 00	800 00	800 00	
Pawnees - - -	For limited annuity, $4,600; agricultural implements, $2,000 -	6,600 00			
Do - - -	To supply deficiency in the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1844, for education - - - - - -	500 00			
Do - - -	To supply deficiency in the appropriation for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1844, for two blacksmiths - - - - -	1,000 00	8,100 00	7,320 00	780 00
Quapaws - - -	For limited annuity, $2,000; blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, $1,060; farmer, $600; education, $1,000 - -	4,660 00	4,660 00	3,660 00	1,000 00
Six Nations of New York -	For permanent annuity - - - - - - -	4,500 00	4,500 00	4,500 00	
Senecas of New York - -	For permanent annuity, in lieu of interest on stock - -	6,000 00	6,000 00	6,000 00	
Sioux of Mississippi - -	For limited annuity - - - - - - -	10,000 00			
Do do - -	For interest on $300,000, at 5 per cent. - - - - -	15,000 00			
Do do - -	For purchase of medicines, agricultural implements and stock, and support of physician, &c. - - - - - -	8,250 00			
Do do - -	For purchase of provisions - - - - - -	5,500 00			
Do do - -	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, &c. - -	1,060 00			
Do do - -	For agricultural implements - - - - - -	700 00	40,510 00	34,420 05	6,089 95
Yancton and Santie Sioux -	For blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, &c., $940; agricultural implements, $400 - - - - - -	1,340 00	1,340 00	-	1,340 00
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri -	For interest on $157,400, at 5 per cent. - - - - -	7,870 00	7,870 00	5,945 00	1,925 00
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi -	For permanent annuity - - - - - - -	1,000 00			
Do do - -	For limited annuities - - - - - - -	30,000 00			
Do do - -	For interest on $200,000, at 5 per cent. - - - - -	10,000 00			

STATEMENT—Continued.

Heads of account.	Specified objects.	Amount appropriated for the fiscal year commenc'g July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844.	Total amount appropriated.	Am't drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes, viz:					
Sacs and Foxes of Mississippi -	For blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, &c. - -	$2,120 00			
Do do - -	For gunsmith, and iron and steel, &c., $820; agricultural implements, $800 - - - - - - - - -	1,620 00			
Do do - -	For forty barrels salt, $200; forty kegs tobacco, $600 - -	800 00			
			$45,540 00	$45,540 00	
Shawnees - - -	For permanent annuities - - - - - - -	3,000 00			
Do - - -	For limited annuity - - - - - - - -	2,000 00			
Do - - -	For blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, &c., $2,120; salt, $60 - - - - - - - - -	2,180 00			
			7,180 00	7,180 00	
Senecas and Shawnees - -	For permanent annuity, $1,000; blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, &c., $1,060 - - - - - -	2,060 00			
			2,060 00	2,060 00	
Senecas - - -	For permanent annuities, $1,000; blacksmith and assistant, and iron and steel, &c., $1,060; miller, $600 - - -	2,660 00			
			2,660 00	2,660 00	
Wyandots - - -	For permanent annuity, $17,500; blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, &c., $1,880 - - - - - -	19,380 00			
			19,380 00	18,620 00	$760 00
Weas - - -	For permanent annuity - - - - - - -	3,000 00			
			3,000 00	3,000 00	
Winnebagoes - - -	For limited annuities - - - - - - -	28,000 00			
Do - - -	For interest on $1,100,000, at 5 per cent. - - - -	55,000 00			
Do - - -	For fifty barrels salt, $250; 4,500 pounds tobacco, $525; three blacksmiths and assistants, and iron and steel, &c., $2,820 -	3,595 00			
Do - - -	For laborers and oxen, $365; six agriculturists, purchase of oxen and ploughs, and other implements, $2,500 - - -	2,865 00			
Do - - -	For two physicians, $400; education, $3,000 - - -	3,400 00			
			92,860 00	72,870 00	19,990 00
			750,568 00	677,929 43	72,638 57
Current expenses of the Indian department - - -	For pay of superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, and Indian agents - - - - - - - -	$16,500 00	$16,500 00	$15,750 00	$750 00
	For pay of sub-agents - - - - - - -	13,000 00	13,000 00	10,875 00	2,125 00
	For pay of interpreters - - - - - - -	11,300 00	11,300 00	10,447 00	853 00
	For pay of clerk to superintendent at St. Louis - - -	1,200 00	1,200 00	600 00	600 00
	For pay of clerk to acting superintendent, Western Territory -	1,000 00	1,000 00	1,000 00	
	For provisions for Indians - - - - - -	11,800 00	11,800 00	6,995 48	4,804 52
	For buildings at agencies, &c. - - - - -	2,000 00	2,000 00	1,572 00	428 00
	For contingencies, Indian department - - - - -	36,500 00	36,500 00	35,548 84	951 16
		–	93,300 00	82,788 32	10,511 68
Civilization of Indians - -	- - - - - - - - -	10,000 00	10,000 00	3,915 00	6,085 00
			103,300 00	86,703 32	16,596 68

RECAPITULATION.

Objects of appropriation.	Total amount appropriated.	Amount drawn to June 30, 1844, inclusive.	Balance remaining undrawn.
Amount appropriated for fulfilling treaties with various Indian tribes for the fiscal year commencing July 1, 1843, and ending June 30, 1844; and the amount drawn thereon to June 30, 1844, inclusive; and the balance remaining undrawn, as per statement -	$750,568 00	$677,929 43	$72,638 57
Amount appropriated for the current expenses of the Indian department, &c. - - - - - - - -	93,300 00	82,788 32	10,511 68
Civilization of Indians, &c. - - - - - - -	10,000 00	3,915 00	6,085 00
Total - - - - - - - -	853,868 00	764,632 75	89,235 25

(13.)—*Statement exhibiting the amount of investments for Indian account in Stnte stocks, &c.*

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Cherokees	Kentucky	5	$94,000 00	-	$4,700 00	-	$94,000 00	-	Semi-annually.	Philadelphia	Treasury U. States.	Treaty Dec , 1835, and suppl't Mar. 7, 1836.
Do	Tennessee	5	250,000 00	-	12,500 00	-	250,000 00	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	Alabama	5	300,000 00	-	15,000 00	-	300,000 00	-	Do	New York	Do	Do do.
Do	Maryland	6	761 39	-	45 68	-	880 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	Do	Do do.
Do	Michigan	6	64,000 00	$708,761 39	3,840 00	$36,085 68	69,120 00	$714,000 00	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Do do.
Cher. schools, (1819.)	Maryland	5	41,138 00	-	2,056 90	-	42,490 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	Do	Treaty Feb. 27, 1819.
Do	Missouri	5½	10,000 00	51,138 00	550 00	2,606 90	10,000 00	52,490 00	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Do do.
Chippewas, Ottowas, & Pottawatomies, (mills.)	Maryland	6	130,850 43	-	7,851 02	-	150,000 00	-	Quarterly	Baltimore	Do	Treaty of Sept., 1833.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	23,000 00	-	1,150 00	-	19,895 00	-	Semi annually.	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	Do	5	5,300 00	-	265 00	-	4,364 50	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	14,500 00	173,650 43	870 00	10,136 02	14,500 00	188,759 50	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Do (education.)	Indiana	5	68,000 00	-	3,400 00	-	72,264 09	-	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Do do.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	8,500 00	-	425 00	-	7,352 50	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	1,000 00	77,500 00	60 00	3,885 00	1,000 00	80,616 59	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Incompetent Chickasaws.	Indiana	5	-	3,000 00	-	150 00	-	3,000 00	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Treaty May, 1834.
Chickasaw orphans.	Arkansas	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-	6,000 00	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	2,000 00	-	100 00	-	1,730 00	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	500 00	8,500 00	30 00	430 00	500 00	8,230 00	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Shawnees	Maryland	6	29,341 50	-	1,760 49	-	33,912 40	-	Do	Baltimore	Do	Treaty August, 1831.
Do	Kentucky	5	1,000 00	-	50 00	-	980 00	-	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	2,000 00	32,341 50	120 00	1,930 49	2,000 00	36,892 40	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Senecas	Kentucky	5	-	5,000 00	-	250 00	-	4,900 00	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Treaty Feb., 1831.
Senecas and Shawnees.	Do	5	6,000 00	-	300 00	-	5,880 00	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	Missouri	5½	7,000 00	13,000 00	385 00	685 00	7,121 87	13,001 87	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Kanzas, (schools)	Do	5½	18,000 00	-	990 00	-	18,000 00	-	Do	Do	Do	Treaty June, 1825.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	2,000 00	-	100 00	-	1,730 00	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	1,500 00	-	90 00	-	1,500 00	-	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1843.	5	2,700 00	24,200 00	135 00	1,315 00	2,727 27	23,957 27	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Creek orphans	Alabama	5	82,000 00	-	4,100 00	-	82,000 00	-	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Treaty March, 1832.
Do	Missouri	5½	28,000 00	-	1,540 00	-	28,487 48	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	16,000 00	-	800 00	-	13,840 00	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	10,000 00	-	600 00	-	10,000 00	-	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1843.	5	13,700 00	149,700 00	685 00	7,725 00	13,838 37	148,165 85	Semi-annually.	Do	Do	Do do.
Menomonies	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-	75,460 00	-	Do	New York	Do	Treaty Sept., 1836.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	9,500 00	-	475 00	-	8,217 50	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.
Do	Do	5	2,500 00	-	125 00	-	2,017 50	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	6,000 00	95,000 00	360 00	4,810 00	6,000 00	91,695 00	Quarterly	Washington	Do	Do do.
Chippewas and Ottowas.	Kentucky	5	77,000 00	-	3,850 00	-	75,460 00	-	Semi-annually.	New York	Do	Treaty March, 1836.
Do	Michigan	6	3,000 00	-	180 00	-	3,000 00	-	Do	Do	Do	Do do.
Do	Pennsyl'a	5	14,000 00	-	700 00	-	12,110 00	-	Do	Philadelphia	Do	Do do.

STATEMENT—Continued.

Names of the tribes for whose account stock is held in trust.	Names of the States which issued the bonds.	Rate per cent.	Amount of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate amount of the bonds for each tribe.	Amount of the annual interest on each.	Aggregate amount of the annual interest for each tribe.	Amount of the cost of each lot of bonds.	Aggregate cost of the bonds for each tribe.	When the interest is payable.	Where the interest is payable.	Where the interest is deposited until wanted for application.	Treaties, on reference to which it may be seen for what objects the interest is to be applied.
Chippewas and Ottowas.	Pennsyl'a -	5	$2,200 00	-	$110 00	-	$1,802 50	-	Semi-annually.	Philadelphia	Treasury U. States.	Treaty March, 1836.
Do -	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	3,500 00	-	210 00	-	3,500 00	-	Quarterly	Washington	Do -	Do do.
Do -	U. S. loan of 1843.	5	4,600 00	-	230 00	-	4,646 46	-	Semi-annually.	Do -	Do -	Do do.
				$104,300 00		$5,280 00		$100,518 96				
Choctaws under convention with Chickasaws, Jan. 17, 1837.	Alabama -	5	-	500,000 00	-	25,000 00	-	500,000 00	Do -	NewOrleans	Do -	Treaty 1829 and resolution of the Senate 1838.
Delawares -	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	-	9,000 00	-	540 00	-	9,000 00	Quarterly	Washington	Do -	Do do.
Osages, (education.)	Do -	6	13,000 00	-	780 00	-	13,000 00	-	Do -	Do -	Do	Treaty 1825 and resolution Senate 1838.
Do -	U. S. loan of 1843.	5	7,400 00	-	370 00	-	7,474 74	-	Semi-annually.	Do -	Do -	Do do.
				20,400 00		1,150 00		20,474 74				
Choctaw orphans.	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	17,850 00	-	1,071 00	-	17,850 00	-	Quarterly	Do -	Do -	Treaty Sept., 1830.
Do -	U. S. loan of 1843.	5	21,600 00	-	1,080 00	-	21,818 16	-	Semi-annually.	Do -	Do -	Do do.
				39,450 00		2,151 00		39,668 16				
Stockbridges & Munsees.	U. S. loan of 1841.	6	-	6,000 00	-	360 00	-	6,000 00	Quarterly	Do -	Do -	Treaty May, 1840.
Senecas, New York.	U. S. loan of 1842.	6	-	64,500 00	-	3,870 00	-	74,938 75	Semi-annually.	Do -	Do -	Treaty May 20, 1842.
				2,085,441 32		108,360 09		2,116,309 09				

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE INDIAN AFFAIRS, 1844.

(13.)

Statement exhibiting the annual interest appropriated by Congress to pay the following tribes of Indians, in lieu of investing the sums of money provided by treaty in stocks.

Names of the tribes.	Am't provided by treaty for investment.	Rate per ct.	Amount of interest annually appropriated.	Authority by which made.
Delawares - - -	$46,080	5	$2,304	Treaty 29th September, 1829.
Chippewas and Ottowas -	200,000	6	12,000	Resolution Senate 27th May, 1836.
Sioux, Mississippi - -	300,000	5	15,000	Treaty 29th September, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes, Missouri -	157,400	5	7,870	Treaty 21st October, 1837.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi -	200,000	5	10,000	Do do.
Winnebagoes - - -	1,100,000	5	55,000	Treaty 1st November, 1837.
Iowas - - - -	157,500	5	7,875	Resolution Senate 19th Jan., 1838.
Osages - - - -	69,120	5	3,456	Do do.
Creeks - - - -	350,000	5	17,500	Treaty 23d November, 1838.
Sacs and Foxes, Mississippi -	800,000	5	40,000	Treaty 11th October, 1842.
	3,380,100		171,005	

List of Indian schools, with their location, and the number of scholars and teachers, including, so far as reports have been received, all that receive allowances from education annuity or the civilization fund.

Names of principals.	Tribes instructed.	Location.	Teachers.	Scholars. Boys.	Scholars. Girls.	Scholars. Total.	Denomination.	Remarks.
MICHIGAN SUPERINTENDENCY.								
Bishop P. P. Lefevre	Ottowas	Arbre Croche	2	33	41	74	Catholic.	
Do	Do	La Croix	2	23	25	48	Do.	
Do	Do	Middletown	1	17	10	27	Do.	
Do	Do	Cheboygan	1	–	–	20	Do.	
Do	Chippewas	Sault Ste. Marie	–	–	–	–	Do.	No report.
Do	Ottowas and Chippewas	Fox river	–	–	–	–	Do.	Do.
Do	Chippewas	Manistie	1	10	12	22	Do.	
Do	Ottowas	Grand river	1	–	–	25	Do.	
Do	Chippewas	Mackinac	1	18	30	48	Do.	
Do	Do	Point St. Ignace	2	–	–	40	Do.	
Do	Do	L Anse	2	23	28	51	Do.	
Rev. W. H. Brockway	Do	Little Rapids	2	19	17	36	Methodist.	
Do	Do	Fond du Lac	1	15	15	30	Do.	
Do	Do	Ke-wa-we-non	1	16	14	30	Do.	
Do	Do	Sandy Lake	1	12	10	22	Do.	
Rev. J. Selkridge	Ottowas of Grand river	Griswold	1	18	–	18	Protestant Episcopal.	
Rev. L. Slater	Ottowas	Gull Prairie	1	–	–	32	Baptist.	
Rev. A. Bingham	Chippewas	Sault. Ste. Marie	5	30	30	60	Do.	
Rev. P. Dougherty	Chipewas of G. Traverse	Grand Traverse bay	1	–	–	35	Presbyterian.	
Rev. George A. Smith	Ottowas	Old Wing	1	21	12	33	A. B. C. F. M.	
IOWA SUPERINTENDENCY.								
	Sioux	Red Wing's village	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
Rev. Thomas Williamson	Sioux	Lac qui Parle	6	15	59	74	A. B. C. F. M.	
WISCONSIN SUPERINTENDENCY.								
	Brothertown	Manchester	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
John L. Seymour	Winnebagoes	Turkey river	4	–	–	60		
H. R. Coleman	Menomonies	Green Bay	1	16	16	32		
Rev. S. Davis	Oneidas	Duck creek	2	20	20	40	Protestant Episcopal.	
	Stockbridge	Stockbridge	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
H. R. Coleman	Oneidas (Orchard party)	Green Bay	1	15	13	28		
	Chippewas	Lapointe	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
Rev. T. T. Vanderbroeck	Menomonies	Little Chute	1	12	32	44	Catholic.	
ST. LOUIS SUPERINTENDENCY.								
William Hamilton	Iowas, Sacs, and Foxes	Great Nemaha	1	–	–	50	Presbyterian.	
Rev J. F. L. Verreyett	Pottawatomies	Sugar creek	8	64	63	127	Catholic.	
Samuel Allis	Pawnees	Pawnee country	1	–	–	40	A. B. C. F. M.	
Rev. E. T. Perry	Various Northwest tribes	Fort Leavenworth	–	107	52	159	Methodist	Manual labor school.
Francis Barker	Shawnees and others	Fort Leavenworth	1	10	4	14	Baptist	Do.
	Munsees and Delawares	Westfield	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
Rev. J. D. Blanchard	Delawares	Fort Leavenworth	1	10	10	20	Baptist.	
	Shawnees and others	Fort Leavenworth	–	–	–	–	–	No report.
WESTERN SUPERINTENDENCY.								
David Carter	Cherokees	Various places	20	–	–	774	–	In 20 common schools.
Rev. S. A. Worcester	Do	Park Hill	1	–	–	23		
Jacob Hitchcock	Do	Dwight	2	–	–	40	A. B. C. F. M.	
Elizur Butler	Do	Fairfield	1	–	–	25	Do.	
David Z. Smith	Do	Spring Place	4	–	–	35	Moravian.	
Rev. D. S. Butrick	Do	Mount Zion	–	–	–	–	–	Number not mentioned.
Rev. R. D. Potts	Choctaws	Providence	3	26	6	32	–	Treaty.
Rev. W. H. Goode	Do	Fort Coffee	1	36	–	36	Methodist.	
Rev. E. McKenny	Do	Spencer academy	3	110	–	110	Do.	
Rev. E. Hotchkin	Do	Good Water	1	–	20	20	A. B. C. F. M.	
Rev. C. Kingsbury	Do	Chu-ah-la	2	–	35	35	Do.	
Rev. Alfred Wright	Do	Wheelock	2	–	53	53	Do.	
Rev. C. C. Copeland	Do	Norwalk	2	–	–	50	Do.	

LIST—Continued.

Names of principals.	Tribes instructed.	Location.	Teachers.	SCHOLARS.			Denomination.	Remarks.
				Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
W. SUPERINTENDENCY—continued.								
Rev. S. G. Patterson	Quapaws	Quapaw mission	1	10	6	16	Methodist.	
John D. Bemo	Seminoles	Prospect Hill	–	15	–	15		
CHOCTAW ACADEMY.								
D. Vanderslice	22 Pottawatomies, 5 Creeks, 1 Prairie du-Chien, 20 Chickasaws, 18 Chicagoes	- - - -	3	–	–	66		
NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY.								
	New York Indians	Buffalo	–	–	–	–	- - - -	No report.
	Do	Cattaraugus	–	–	–	–	- - - -	Do.
	Do	Tuscarora	–	–		–	- - - -	Do.
	Do	Tonawanda	–	–	–	–	- - - -	Do.
	Mohegans	Mohegan school	–	–	–	–	- - - -	Do.
OREGON.								
Dr. E. White	Nezpercés	Oregon country	–	–	–	224		

(15.)

Statement showing the amount and disposition of funds provided by treaty for education purposes.

Total.	Date of treaty.	Amount.	How expended.
Chippewas - - -	Aug. 5, 1836	$1,000	Baptist board.
Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies - - -	Sept. 26, 1833	3,825	Choctaw academy.
Chippewas, Menomonies, Winnebagoes, and New York Indians	Aug. 11, 1837	1,500	Protestant Episcopal.
Choctaws - - -	Sept. 27, 1830	2,500	Schools in the nation.
Choctaws - - -	Sept. 27, 1830	12,000	Do.
Choctaws - - -	Jan. 20, 1825	6,000	Do.
Chickasaws - - -	May 24, 1834	3,000	Choctaw academy.
Creeks - - - -	May 24, 1832	3,000	Do.
Creeks - - - -	Feb. 14, 1833	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Cherokees - - -	May 6, 1828	2,000	Do.
Delawares - - -	Sept. 24, 1829	2,844	Manual labor, Fort Leavenworth.
Florida Indians - - -	Sept. 18, 1823	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Kickapoos - - -	Oct. 24, 1832	500	Do.
Miamies - - - -	Oct. 23, 1826	2,000	No schools.
Ottowas and Chippewas - -	Mar. 28, 1836	8,000	Schools in the nation.
Otoes and Missourias - -	Sept. 21, 1833	500	Do.
Osages - - - -	June 25, 1823	3,456	Do.
Pottawatomies - - -	Oct. 16, 1826	2,000	Choctaw academy.
Pottawatomies - - -	Sept. 28, 1828	1,000	Do.
Pottawatomies - - -	Oct. 27, 1832	2,000	Do.
Pawnees - - -	Oct. 9, 1833	1,000	Schools in the nation.
Quapaws - - -	May 13, 1833	1,000	Do.
Sacs and Foxes of Missouri -	Oct. 21, 1837	770	Do.
Winnebagoes - - -	Sept. 15, 1832	3,000	Do.
Winnebagoes - - -	Nov. 1, 1837	2,800	Do.

Statement of the civilization fund.

Balance on hand January 1, 1844 - - -	$9,795 32	
Add appropriation for 1844 - - -	10,000 00	
		$19,795 32
Of which has been expended from 1st January to 30th September, 1844 - - - -	9,905 00	
Required to complete payments for the year 1844 -	3,600 00	
		13,505 00
Balance on hand - - - -		6,290 32

(16.)

WINNEBAGO SCHOOL,

Turkey River, Iowa Territory, September 2, 1844.

SIR: In submitting my annual report of this school, it gives me pleasure to state, that an addition of forty-two scholars the past year now makes the whole number one hundred and seventy. Fifteen from a band five

miles distant (the chief of which had previously made an unsuccessful application for a school at his place) have attended this the past summer, thus walking ten miles daily.

The school has been attended as follows: September was vacation; the Indians received their annuity. In October, the whole number of pupils, 45—daily average, 27; November, 45—31; December, 50—35; January, 58—40; February, 52—39; March, 56—32; April, 78—40; May, 135—75; June, 147—88; July, 150—64; August, 161—70.

Five persons have been employed in school—one in the clothing department and four in teaching. Three teachers only were employed from September to May, when the services of the fourth became necessary. The school has been taught 236 days, exclusive of the Sabbath, on which day the children assemble for religious instruction. We have no school on Saturdays. The aggregate of labor in school during the year is 1,185 days, with an average of fifteen scholars to each teacher. Thirty days have been lost by sickness, and three days a teacher was absent by permission; in no other case has the post of a teacher been vacated.

The irregularity of the pupils, their dread of restraint, and general ignorance of our language, set order aside, renders it scarcely possible to keep any two of them in the same degree of advancement, and requires of the teachers an amount of labor and patience that can be estimated by experience only.

The pupils are in every stage of advancement, from the letter A to a passable knowledge of all the branches taught in common schools. Five are studying between simple proportion in Smith's Arithmetic and simple equation in Davies's Algebra; eight between the ground rules and proportion; twenty are studying the ground rules; thirty-two are studying geography; sixty read in the Eclectic First Reader, and books of a higher order; about one hundred in the Eclectic Primer, beyond the alphabet; and twelve in the alphabet. The elements of vocal music have also been taught.

The clothing department has furnished 41 boys' coats, 168 pairs pants, 149 shirts, 88 girls' dresses, 104 short gowns, 41 chemises, 24 skirts, 44 aprons, 1 cloak, 13 towels, 12 bags, 5 bedticks, 4 pillow cases—total, 694.

Anticipating a removal of the Indians, no improvements have been made in our buildings, and things desirable to be taught have been neglected. The suspense of the Indians is a serious obstacle to our prosperity. They have a good country, and wish to keep it. Several who wish to live in houses, but will not build for white men to inhabit, have, in council, inquired of me how they could obtain land in fee simple. It was disheartening to tell them they could not do it here, though they probably might where the Government wished them to remove. To their inquiry, why not here? it was difficult to tinge an answer with benevolence sufficient to satisfy them.

Their removal from this place is inevitable, and its accomplishment desirable. That it may be done with kindness, and a righteous God prevent its repetition, is the earnest prayer of your obedient servant,

JOHN L. SEYMOUR,
Principal Winnebago School.

JAMES MCGREGOR, JR., Esq.,
United States Indian Sub-Agent.

(17.)

Extract from the report of Thomas Williamson, superintendent of the Lac qui Parle school among the Sioux.

In consequence of scarcity of provisions, owing to less than half of the usual quantity of corn being made in this neighborhood last year, the attendance, especially of the larger and more advanced scholars, has been very irregular, and many of them have attended but a few days, and that in the severest weather, so that but little progress has been made during the year in teaching writing and arithmetic. The males, on an average, attended less than 20 days each; the females, on an average, attended about 55 days each. The Misses Rinville's scholars, being most of them some way connected with the trading post, have been more stationary, and consequently much more constant in their attendance than the others, and have made corresponding progress; several who, at the commencement of the school, did not know all the letters, have learned to read plainly. The Misses Rinville are daughters of Joseph Rinville, extensively known as an interpreter and trader among the Sioux; they were among the first scholars of the mission school here, and were employed to teach last September, in consequence of sickness in the mission family. They have succeeded beyond our highest hopes; Miss Madeline especially has evinced superior talents for the government of a school. I have paid her $2 per quarter of 12 weeks for regular scholars, and in like proportion for irregular, and have promised books, slates, paper, &c. If Government could make them some allowance out the civilization fund, it might serve to foster native talent, and encourage them in teaching, especially as, owing to reverses in the trade, their father, with all his family, are reduced to straitened circumstances.

The average attendance in the school was nearly 13; the whole number who attended it about 40. Mr. Higgins, when not engaged in teaching, labors as farmer and mechanic. Besides keeping before their eyes an example of contented and profitable industry, in growing nearly all the provisions used in the mission family, much of his time is spent in instructing and assisting in such things as may lead them to a more settled mode of life; he grinds the axes and hoes, handles them, and makes rakes, and teaches them to do such things themselves; furnishes them with tools for that purpose. He broke for them this spring upwards of nine acres, chiefly new land, never before cultivated, and spent part of several days in instructing and assisting some of them to plough with their own horses, and others with a yoke of oxen lent them by Mr. Rinville. The Indians here, this season, have evinced more disposition to use the plough than ever before. If Government would furnish them with a few good small ploughs, collars, hames, &c., to enable them to plough with their own horses, it might be more useful to them than the same amount given in any other way. The mission has furnished them with a number of hoes and axes; but not so many as they need. But that which they need more than any thing else, which it is in the power of the United States Government to bestow, is a government of equitable laws, which, by inflicting adequate punishment on offenders, would give tolerable security to life and property, and thus promote industry and economy. They trespass less on the property of the mission than on that of their own people, in proportion to its amount

and exposedness; yet, within a year, they have destroyed three oxen and nine head of cattle, besides pigs, sheep, and poultry—taking full two-thirds of our entire domestic animals, except horses, which they have not molested. That the fear of punishment would be as effectual to restrain them as other people from such trespasses is manifest, from the fact that, in the mean time, they have not knowingly killed any of Mr. Rinville's cattle; and the more intelligent men say the reason is, that the young men refrain from doing it because they are afraid Rinville's sons will strike them.

The amount of whiskey brought into this neighborhood is increasing rapidly, with its attendant evils. It seems, from what the Indians tell us, that the efforts of Government to prevent intoxicating drinks from being taken up the Missouri are proving efficacious, which encourages us to look to the same source to arrest the deadly tide which flows up the St. Peter's. Much of it is paid for, in the first place, by the annuities which the Minda-Wakanton Sioux receive from Government. If it should be considered that the evils arising from it are about the same, whether taken into the country by Indians or white men, and suitable punishment inflicted on all, irrespective of color, who are found having it in the Indian country, it might go far to arrest the evil, could the annuities of individuals known to trade in it be stopped.

The buffalo, after an absence of more than twenty years from this section of country, have returned in large herds. This affords the Indians a very seasonable supply of excellent food at present; but the traders say that, by turning off their attention from every other means of living, it will prove an injury to them; and in this opinion it is probable the traders are correct.

A great flood in the St. Peter's, which kept most of the land which has heretofore been planted in this neighborhood under water throughout the months of April and May, prevented many from planting at the proper season. About twenty families, who made new fields in good season, have prospect of excellent crops.

The books published at the expense of the board of commissioners for foreign missions and American Bible society, and printed under the superintendence of Mr. Riggs, in the years 1842 and 1843, have done much to interest and profit our schools the past year.

(18.)

DUCK CREEK, W. T., *September* 12, 1844.

DEAR SIR: Your communication of the 6th instant was duly received. In answer to it, I will now report the condition of the school and mission under my charge, and give a statement showing, as nearly as I can, the condition of this tribe. The school averages 40 scholars. About 100 attend, but not regularly; one-half of this number are females. Instruction is given in the common branches of education. The children are also catechised in their own language, and trained in the doctrines and usages of the church, which numbers 120 devout communicants at the altar, among whom are a majority of the chiefs of the nation. We have a neat Gothic church, erected at the expense of the Indians. It has been enclosed the past year by a good substantial board fence, and the grounds about the

same have been improved and beautified by setting out trees and shrubbery. This is mentioned, not boastingly, but simply from a desire to place before you all the evidence I can of their advancement. We have also a convenient parsonage and school house, both erected at the cost of the nation. Their conduct in these things is deserving of praise.

This mission is under the patronage of the domestic committee of the board of missions of the Protestant Episcopal church in the United States of America, by whom it is supported at an annual expenditure of $550. From this sum are paid the salaries of the superintendent, the schoolmaster, and the interpreter.

On Duck creek, the place of their location, the Oneidas have two saw mills, one grist mill, and one blacksmith shop. The quantity of land under cultivation is 2,213 acres. When it is taken into the account, that this land was covered with a heavy growth of timber, it will convince any one that not a little labor has been bestowed to bring it to its present productive state.

By a census recently taken under my direction, I am enabled to place before you the following additional facts, which may not be uninteresting to the friends of Indian civilization:

Number of families	150
Number of souls	722
Frame houses	20
Block houses	43
Log houses	84
Frame barns	51
Log barns	38
Wagons	30
Sleighs	87
Ploughs	69
Harrows	51
Fanning mills	15
Threshing machine	1
Horses	104
Oxen	200
Cows	181
Calves and young cattle	110
Hogs	561
Domestic fowls	1,298
Sheep	5
Clocks	17

It will be seen, by comparing this with the census taken two years since, that the Oneidas increase in number—there being forty-seven persons more now than at that time.

I am, sir, with much respect, your friend and most obedient servant,

SOLOMON DAVIS,
Missionary to the Oneidas.

Colonel DAVID JONES,
U. S. Sub-Agent, Green Bay.

(19.)

ONEIDA NATION,
Near Green Bay, W. T., September 10, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I here present you with a report of the school taught among the Oneida Indians, under the patronage of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, in the year ending September 1, 1843.

The amount expended, and for services teaching, are as follows:

July, 1843, 1½ dozen spelling books at $1 50 per dozen	$2 25
6 months' services for a man teaching school, at $18 per month, including board	108 00
Whole amount of expenditure for the past year	110 25

Number of scholars taught 28—males 15, females 13.

One of the number is 5 years old, 25 between 7 and 12, and 2 are 14; 14 read and spell in spelling, 13 take lessons in reading, 2 in arithmetic, 13 in writing. The English language only has been taught.

The scholars have all made respectable improvement, with as few exceptions as are usually found among white children of the same age.

Yours, respectfully,

H. R. COLEMAN, *Teacher.*

DAVID JONES, Esq.,
Indian Agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin Territory.

The above report, or substance of it, was made last November, to the agent.

H. R. C.

ONEIDA NATION,
Near Green Bay, September 10, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I here present you with a report of a school taught by me among the Oneida Indians, under the patronage of the missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, for the year ending September 1, 1844.

The following expenses have been incurred, viz:

December, 1843, 6 spelling books at 12½ cents each	$0 75
6 slates at 18¾ cents each, 1 bunch pencils at 25 cents	1 37
4 quires writing paper at 25 cents per quire	1 00
2 bunches quills at 25 cents each, 3 inkstands at 10 cents each	80
1 bottle ink at 16 cents, paid for mending stove $1 50	1 66
1 dozen lights of glass at 75 cents, 2 pounds of putty at 25 cents	1 00
7 months' services teaching, at $18 per month, including board	126 00
Whole amount of expenditure for the past year	132 58

Number of scholars 32—males 16, females 16.

Ages.—Five years and under, 4; between five and ten, 22; between ten and fifteen, 6.

Studies.—Arithmetic, 2; writing, 13; reading, 8; spelling, 13; letters, 5. The scholars live with their parents, and their attendance is not regular;

but, considering the time they do attend, their improvement is respectable, with some exceptions, as is always the case in every school. The English language only has been taught.

Yours, respectfully,
HENRY R. COLEMAN, *Teacher.*

DAVID JONES, Esq.,
Indian Agent at Green Bay, Wisconsin Territory.

(20.)

IOWA AND SAC MISSION, *September* 30, 1844.

SIR: Time, in its rapid and ceaseless progress, has brought us to the period in this year at which it is necessary, in compliance with given instructions, to submit to you a report of the school, together with some things of general interest connected with our station. The school remains much as heretofore. We have between fifty and sixty children of a suitable age to receive instruction, but who, though they manifest no hostility to learning, are nevertheless so indolent, and they put so low an estimate on learning, that, in their present situation, they cannot be induced to make the application necessary to advance rapidly in learning.

Owing to their irregular attendance at school, and the impossibility of exercising, as they are now situated, a necessary government over them, together with an expected change in our mode of teaching, the school has not received that attention which it otherwise would, and which it did receive in former seasons. Several years' experience has led us to hope that a boarding school, conducted on correct principles, would be a great aid in our work; and after much delay, on account of inadequate means, the board has, with the aid and co-operation of Government, resolved to form a "manual labor boarding school" at this place. Preparatory to this, upwards of seventy acres of land have been fenced and part broken; a contract for making 200,000 brick has been let, and 100,000 are now ready to lay up, and the remainder will be made at least as soon as needed. Hands are employed to commence the foundation, forward stone, &c., so that we hope to be able to get the main buildings up the coming summer.

Besides attending to this business, the printing press has drawn largely on the time which otherwise would have been given to the school. We have printed one elementary book of 101 pages, 225 copies; one hymn book of 62 pages, 125 copies; one prayer book of 24 pages, 100 copies; one question book in press, of 30 pages, 200 copies. The New Testament we expect to commence shortly. These books will be a great aid in the contemplated school; with them the children will soon be able to read in their own language, which will in some degree remove the formidable appearance of the English. This school is intended mainly for the benefit of the Iowas and Sacs, but will be open to neighboring tribes, that they may assist in and derive the benefits of it. Our board is cramped for means to carry on this improvement, but we rely much on your influence with the Government for assistance; and we are not a little gratified and encouraged by the generous donation from the Iowas of more than $1,400 for this purpose. From this evident mark of their friendship to this institution, we cannot but think that if they were properly treated they would be willing

to comply with any reasonable request of the Government, and do much for the benefit of the rising and succeeding generations. This donation we appreciate the more, in view of their needy condition the present year; for, besides a heavy debt and the loss of crops by the high waters last spring, $1,500 of their present year's annuity has been withheld, to pay for "the killing of cattle," as it is called, seven or eight years ago.

The act of Congress authorizing such a draught on their annuities is much to be regretted. The least we can say with regard to it is, that further information should have been sought before the act was passed.

* * * * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servants,

S. M. IRVIN.
WM. HAMILTON.

Major W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-Agent, Great Nemaha, Mo.

(21.)

SUGAR CREEK CATHOLIC MISSION,
September 9, 1844.

HONORED SIR: The time has again arrived when it becomes my duty to make an annual report of the school of this mission under my superintendence. The male school has been regularly attended since my last report, and consequently the scholars have improved in their studies. Some of them have had to leave school on account of their parents' removing to some distance from the mission; but they have been replaced by others, which make their number the same as stated in my last report, viz: 64; of whom 40 to 45 may be said to attend regularly. By the accompanying schedule, you will see the names, ages, and progress, of each scholar. The course of instruction pursued in the male school is—reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. Some of the scholars are becoming quite proficient, especially in reading, writing, and arithmetic.

The female academy is conducted by the ladies of the Sacred Heart, five of whom devote their whole attention to the moral and mental improvement of those under their charge. The number of scholars is 63; of whom about 40 attend daily. The accompanying schedule will show the studies pursued by each scholar, together with their names, and the progress of each individual. You will perceive that, while the more useful branches of female education are taught, the more fashionable accomplishments are not neglected, such as embroidery, &c. A number of Indian girls are also supported and brought up in the family of the ladies. More would be taken, but the limited circumstances of the institution prohibit it at present.

The looms provided by the Government have not yet been put in operation. On examination, they are all, with the exception of one, found to be incomplete; a number of pieces are wanting to each one. The cotton and wool to manufacture are also wanting. These reasons, and the one assigned in my last report, viz: the want of means to put up the necessary building, is the cause that the ladies have not been able to teach their scholars to weave.

These ladies have now been three years in the Indian country, devoting their whole attention to the instruction of Indian children, and have never received any aid from the General Government. Their expenses cannot

be less than from $700 to $800 annually. This is a great expense, and I really think that the department should take their case into consideration, and allow them something annually to defray it.

The Rev. C. Hoecken and myself are engaged in ministerial labors. H. Mazzelli, G. Miles, and F. Vanderborght, brothers of our society, are with us, and have been of great service to the Indians, as reference to my last report will show. The Rev. C. Hoecken administers medicine to the sick, as necessity requires. The health of this place is much better than it has been for a number of years; probably owing to our inducing the Indians to leave the creek bottom, and to build upon the high prairies. Most of them have done so, and the improved state of health shows them the truth of our suggestion.

We are about removing our church to a more eligible situation, and also to make an addition to it, as it is entirely too small for our congregation. All the logs have been hewed and hauled by the Indians, who are very willing to do any thing to assist us in this undertaking; but still the expense of nails, shingles, and the putting up and finishing of the building, falls upon us, and will be heavy, indeed, unless the department should render us some assistance. When the good that has been and may still be done by the civilization of these Indians is taken into consideration, I do not think that our appeal will be considered improper. Missionaries of any denomination in the Indian country receive aid from their own societies or from the General Government; it is not so with us. Our society is totally unable to render us any further assistance than to send us, at times, provisions; and, as to aid from the department, we never have received any thing but what was immediately paid to the teachers of the school at this mission. I hope that the department will consider this subject, and render us that assistance which is denied us from all other quarters.

I am, honored sir, most respectfully, your very obedient servant,

J. F. VERREYETT.

THOMAS HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Missouri.

(22.)

SHAWNEE BAPTIST MISSION,
Indian Territory, October 19, 1844.

SIR: This missionary station among the Shawnees is under the direction of the Baptist board of foreign missions, located at Boston, Massachusetts. Its operations are confined to translations of portions of scripture, &c., an English boarding school, and the various duties connected with imparting direct religious instruction.

The translations are applicable to the adult population. They are printed upon a system easily comprehended by them. And though the native language is not sufficiently elevated to convey the full spirit of the original, yet the utility of translations is placed beyond a doubt, as they are much more critically prepared than the common interpretations, and can be *studied* as well as read by the people. We find them of great advantage to the native preacher, not only in the selection of his text, but in guiding the subject of his discourse.

The English boarding school is still sustained. It is strictly upon the manual labor plan, although not so extensive in its mechanical apparatus as some kindred institutions. It contains at present ten boys and four girls, ranging from five to fourteen years of age, in various progress, from letters to history and philosophy. The branches we think the most important for them are—reading, writing, arithmetic, and geography. We look upon this department as among our most valuable means of permanently benefiting the Indians. We are exceedingly anxious of increasing its efficiency as much as our means will allow.

We have encouragement in our general missionary labors. We have been at peace with all the Indians, as far as we are able to judge. Religious worship has been regularly sustained on Sabbath days at the mission, and frequently on week days among the Indians at their houses. Several have been added to the church, of such as we hope will be saved.

In conclusion, I can say, sir, that although every thing is not as might be desired, yet, looking upon your agency in contrast with more remote tribes, the improvement appears such as to afford the most satisfactory grounds of encouragement in the work of reform. We are gratified at noticing, even among those not yet converted to the Christian faith, an effort for the suppression of the evils of intemperance, and for the promotion of industry and economy.

Yours, as ever, with much respect,

FRANCIS BARKER,

Superintendent of the Missionary School.

R. W. CUMMINS, Esq.,

U. S. Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

(23.)

DELAWARE BAPTIST MISSION HOUSE,

September 28, 1844.

SIR: I have delayed making my report a little beyond the usual time, expecting to have received advice from you on the subject, and partly from the press of other duties.

As to the affairs of this station, permit me to remark that no particular change has taken place during the last year. The present number of pupils belonging to this school is twenty, viz: ten boys and ten girls. Four have left—one, however, prematurely—so that little or no good may be expected as the result of our efforts in this case. One of the number has since died. The other two are doing well. One of our little boys died a few days since, during our vacation—making the whole number of pupils taught by us during the year twenty-five. Reading, writing, geography, arithmetic, and English grammar, are the branches that have been taught. As to proficiency, I shall leave *final result* to make its report.

I am more and more convinced that family fireside education has not only a most important bearing upon an Indian school, but that without it it is almost futile to hope for any positive good as a result from intellectual culture. Indeed, I am ready to say, from my own observation, that strengthening the understanding by education, without this parental train-

ing connected with it, is but to strengthen the individual to injure himself and the society into which he may be thrown. This I do not attribute to any peculiarity of the Indian character, but to the fact that Indians in their aboriginal state, in common with all other heathen, know emphatically nothing of family discipline, relationship, and domestic life. And how should they?—the father, perhaps, having a half dozen sets of children in different parts of the nation, and the mother few less with her. It seems to me that one of the most fruitful sources of failure in the different systems of educating Indian youths has been that this point has been too much overlooked. Will not your own observation, sir, bring you to nearly the same conclusion? As these have become my settled and abiding convictions, I have endeavored to give this station more the character of a private family than that of a "public school." I feel quite sure that, had you visited us, you could have but been pleased with the familiar appearance of our children. Their labor (for we endeavor to carry out the manual labor system as much as any family in the East) becomes a matter of pleasure, rather than a task. The pupils are all boarded, lodged, clothed, &c., at the expense of the institution. Our operations are limited, as our means are but small. Six hundred and twenty dollars are the entire receipts of the station during the past year, exclusive of a native assistant, who has no connexion with the school or its expenses.

This station now exists under the opposition of the chiefs, who are not backward in intimating that, if it would have their favors, it must make them presents. This state of things has grown out of an arrangement with which you are acquainted, of which, therefore, it is unnecessary for me to speak.

You are aware that the settlements in the vicinity of this station were entirely broken up by the dreadful overflow of June last, since which time they have suffered much from sickness. Indeed, we have been able to do little else for the last five weeks but administer to the wants of the suffering sick.

Very respectfully, &c.

J. D. BLANCHARD,
Superintendent Delaware Baptist Mission School.

Major R. W. CUMMINS,
U. S. Indian Agent, Fort Leavenworth Agency.

(24.)

Minutes of council held by the Sac and Fox nation of Missouri river, with W. P. Richardson, Indian sub-agent, at the Great Nemaha sub-agency, on the 4th day of October, 1844.

Nesomequot, chief of the Sacs and Foxes, said:

My father: We have met you to-day, to talk about and transact much business. We are willing and do hereby appropriate all our school fund to the building up and support of the manual labor boarding school about to be established on the land of the Iowas, so long as we live on the land now occupied by us. We understand from you that there is on hand at this time the sum of $1,719 05, which has been sent to you. Also, the sum

of $1,540 in the hands of our great father, which he is anxious we should give to this school. We give it all, together with what may be due us from year to year, for education purposes, with the condition that, if our nation desire it, they shall have a right to send their children to the school. You know many of us are opposed to having our children educated; some of us think differently, and will, no doubt, send their children to the school. As we cannot get the money, we freely surrender it for the benefit of the manual labor boarding school. I want now to talk of the money which has been withheld from our nation to pay for cattle, which we are charged with killing, of Mr. Wallis. Tell our great father that we did not kill Mr. Wallis's cattle. We do not swear on a book, like our white brothers. Tell our great father that he has listened to the talk of bad white men, and taken our money from us without hearing what we had to say in our defence. We did not kill these cattle, but they were lost by the carelessness of their owners and the men who had the care of them. White men, and not Indians, ought to pay for them. Father, we have given our money to the school, and we hope it will please our great father and our white brothers. Father, we have a request to make of our great father: we owe our friend, F. W. Risque, for services rendered our tribe in making the treaty of 1837, in the sum of $4,000. He has our obligation for $3,500, and he claims interest of us on said contract. We are very poor, and do not feel able to pay him more than $4,000—five hundred for waiting on us, and his expenses. We have given him our note for $4,000, and we have signed receipts for that amount, under your instructions. We want our great father to make the payment to Mr. Risque out of the money which we ought to have got in 1838. We understand that our great father says that the money was sent to us in 1838. We did not get $4,700 in 1838. No such sum was received by us, and if our receipts were made, they were not made by us, but were forged. We also understand that there is also due to us $1,171 50 for blacksmithing in 1839 and 1840, and for our farming operations $2,325, of the same year. Out of these funds, which are certainly due us, we want our friend, Mr. Risque, paid. We feel sure our great father will not hesitate to do this, as we have done as he wanted us with our school funds. After paying Mr. Risque, we want the balance of this money sent to us, for we are very poor, in consequence of our money being kept to pay for killing cattle. We also ask our great father to send us $3,000 out of our next year's annuity, to relieve us through the winter. Our corn was destroyed by the waters, and we must suffer if we get no money. We hope our great father will hear this request of his red children, and do as we request him.

Sho-ko-pi, (Sac chief.) *My father:* We have heard the words of our chief, Nesomequot. What he says is very good. It is the will of our nation that it should be as he has said. My father, we do not want any goods next year. We sent last year for such goods as suited us, but we were not heard. No attention was paid to our wants, and we will not take any thing but the money. Our goods were much inferior to what we got before, and we do not want any more.

My father, I am done.

Sho-ko-pi,	his × mark.	Chu-cu-man-as-sa,	his × mark.
Nesomequot,	his × mark.	Op-yo-sa,	his × mark.
Nimrod Hendum,	his × mark.	Mea-ku-top-ku,	his × mark.
Ococqua,	his × mark.	No-sho-to,	his × mark.

Nottellescock,	his × mark.	To-push-a-pan-eta,	his × mark.
Eeshcomaqua,	his × mark.	Kish-o-qua,	his × mark.
Peshoqua,	his × mark.	Wa-shaw-na,	his × mark.
Ketchemy,	his × mark.	Na-a-wam-pe-tah,	his × mark.
Sopar,	his × mark.	Mol-y-toh-kah,	his × mark.
Pe-quoma,	his × mark.	Kenanto,	his × mark.
Wa-me-sau-quar,	his × mark.	O-mar-qua,	his × mark.
Ne-ko-lo-quoh,	his × mark.	Mus-ko-kah,	his × mark.

We do certify that we were personally present at the holding of the above council, and that the above minutes contain the substance of the speeches made by Sho-ko-pi and Nesomequot, the principal chiefs of said nation, and that the same was signed in our presence, at the Great Nehama sub-agency, on the 4th day of October, 1844.

W. P. RICHARDSON, *Indian Sub-Agent.*

his
JOHN × RABITE, *Sac and Fox Interpreter.*
mark.

Attest: John W. Foreman.
Anne E. Richardson.

Minutes of a council held at the Great Nemaha sub-agency, on the 24th of September, 1844, by W. P. Richardson, with the chiefs and braves of the Iowa tribe of Indians.

Major Richardson said to the chiefs: "My children: some evil white men have reported that I have kept $2,500 of your money for the cattle some of your men killed last spring, belonging to the Oregon company. I want you to say if it is so." Nau-che-mie-ga (head chief) said: "It is all lies. It is like lying and stealing both, to say that." Major Richardson said: "You bring me and yourselves into much trouble by having to do with vicious white men. I hope you will have nothing more to do with them." Nau-che-mie-ga: "My father: I want to talk about the money our great father has kept, which our white brothers say is for killing cattle many years ago. We want him to look at it again, and see if he has done right. We want him to hear what his red children have to say about it. We want our father here, and our father at St. Louis, and our great father at Washington, to look at the matter again. By keeping our money, they have made us very poor; our women and little children are very poor. We think the father we have got now will do something for us. Some of the fathers we have had did not try to do us good. Our great father kept some of our money, and the waters have been very high, and taken all or most all our corn, and we want our great father to pity us, for we are very poor. The man who sent us goods this year did not hear what we said to him last year. He has not sent us what we sent for; we will not take any more goods. They will not send us what we want; will take the money. We want our great father to pity us, for we are so poor. We want him to send us three boxes more of our next year's annuity, and to keep the balance till this time next year. Father, we want no blacksmith this year; we want the money due us for blacksmithing, and that due us for purposes of education, to be applied to building the house for the boarding manual labor school, amounting, we are told, to $1,456 62. We

want to have a man to farm for us this year, but do not want any smith. I have no more to say, only we want our great father to pity us, and to keep our women and children from starving." He-wi-tha-cha: "Father: we want you to listen to what our chief says; it is very good; we want our great father to send us three boxes now; we are very poor; we want it this fall." Caw-a-mon-ya said: "Father, we are very poor indeed; we want you to get our great father to give us three boxes more now; we want it this fall." Aha-ka said: "Father, we have come to ask you some things; we want some money very bad; our little children, not three feet high, are suffering. They did not give us what we sent for." Wa-ca-ra-che-ra said: "Father, we want you to pity us; we are very poor. Our great father is very rich. It will not hurt him to send us three boxes, and take it out of our next annuity." Cha-la-ne-an-ga said: "Father, I agree with our chief; we want no smith this year, but we want a farmer." Wa-thu-ca-ru-chu said: "Father, we have heard what our chief has said; it is very good." Wa-pe-a said: "Father, our ears have been very near to our chief, and we have marked his words. We want our great father to send us three boxes of silver, so that we may keep our little children from starving." Nau-che-mie-ga (principal chief) said: "Father, we have given what is due to us for blacksmithing, about $500, and what is due us for education, making in all about a box and a half, to help to build up a boarding school, so that our children may learn to read and write; and we think our great father ought to send us the money soon, to keep us from suffering. We sent last year for some military coats and some medals, but we got none. We want some medals, to show that we are good friends to our great father. Father, we are done."

Nau-che-mie-ga,	his + mark.	Thar-a-man-ger,	his + mark.
Aha-ka,	his + mark.	Na-cha-na-ho,	his + mark.
He-we-tha-chu,	his + mark.	A-ra-ke-rash,	his + mark.
Wah-more-a-cu,	his + mark.	Mon-ton-no-way,	his + mark.
Wah-a-mun-ya,	his + mark.	Mom-ya-hou-you,	his + mark.
Wa-thu-cam-cha,	his + mark.	Ho-thu-hon-ya,	his + mark.
We-pe-u,	his + mark.	Chu-lu-ni-au-gu,	his + mark.
Wo-ka-hou-you,	his + mark.	Pe-ha-he,	his + mark.
Mon-too-ku,	his + mark.	Can-a-more-ga,	his + mark.
Nu-cu-ru-che-ru,	his + mark.		

We, the undersigned, certify that we were present at the holding of the above council, and saw the names of the chiefs and braves signed, and their marks were affixed in our presence, at the Great Nemaha sub-agency, on the 25th day of September, 1844.

JOHN W. FOREMAN.
THOMAS STEWART.
S. M. IRVIN.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1844.

I certify, on honor, that the above is the contents of a council held by the Iowas, on the day above named.

W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-Agent.
J. B. ROY, his + mark,
Iowa Interpreter.

Teste: JOHN W. FOREMAN.

(25.)

WILLOW CREEK, PAWNEE COUNTRY,
August 17, 1844.

SIR: I have accomplished so little the past year at teaching, that I think it unnecessary to write a formal report, but will give you a brief account of facts that may be of some service to the department at Washington.

Soon after the date of my last year's report, I had the misfortune (as you well know) of cutting my foot, which disabled me from performing any business for nearly three months; and in fact I was a cripple nine months. This misfortune happened to me while I was building the school house.

This spring, before the Pawnees went on their hunt, I was engaged in teaching about three weeks. The attendance of the children was irregular—from 15 to 150, mostly boys. While they attended school, they learnt well; but teaching is of but little use, unless the teacher can be permitted to make teaching his business, and the children have sufficient to subsist on. I believe, sir, that the Pawnees cannot be benefited so much in any way as by introducing a manual labor school among them; and I would urge such a course of teaching, were it not for their being exposed to their enemies. There is an abundance of boys that might be got to attend school, and labor also, if they could be fed. Some of us have had boys living with us the summer past that are as industrious and have made as great improvement in learning to work as the generality of white boys. There only lacks proper measures to be taken, to introduce industrious habits.

The Pawnees the spring past have been very poor; so much so, that they had little to subsist on for two months but roots that they dug in the prairie, milk weeds, &c.; consequently, they have killed three of their own oxen, two cows for Mr. Matthews, and two for myself. I think, sir, that decided measures ought to be taken to stop their killing off the stock, or we may as well give up the ship at once.

I know not of so good a course to pursue to induce them as far as possible to raise more provisions. We failed the spring past for the want of seed corn. There were some that planted no corn at all, and of course will live by stealing, which is common, one from another, even if they have plenty of their own.

The Indians were obliged to go a hunting last spring before they hoed their corn much; consequently, they have but little, most of which will be eat up this autumn. The farmers of course will report respecting the farming. I would take the liberty, however, to state that something must be done besides turning over the sod, or the Pawnees will be poor for years. If each band could be furnished with a good span of horses, I will guaranty that boys can be found among the Indians who can soon be learned to plough with those horses in the spring. Unless their prairie ground can be ploughed and worked something as white people work it, they will not raise half a crop. The Indian horses and mules are so poor in the spring, that there is no dependence to be placed in them. I would therefore think it an excellent plan to furnish a two-horse team for each band, to be placed in the hands of those who superintend the farming.

I feel it also necessary that something be done to straighten those Pawnees that live on the south side of the river Platte. They are not only

committing constant depredations on the whites that pass their villages, but are abusing their chiefs and others that have moved; they also charge the Government with lying and cheating; which evils I think it high time to correct; for they are growing worse constantly. It is to be hoped that the Government will favor every effort to ameliorate the condition of the Pawnees; for it is no small tax on our patience as well as our purses, &c., to live among them. Although the progress is slow, I think they are evidently improving—I mean those who have fulfilled the treaty. I have nothing more, sir, to communicate at this time; the above I submit for your disposal. Yours, very truly,

SAMUEL ALLIS.

DANIEL MILLER, Esq., *Indian Agent, Bellevue.*

(26.)

INDIAN MANUAL LABOR SCHOOL, *June* 9, 1844.

SIR: In compliance with your instructions of the 23d April last, I herewith transmit to your office a brief report of the state of this school. The account given in a subsequent part of this report is substantially correct. It is not practicable for us to show, in detail, precisely what each pupil cost; because our supplies of goods, groceries, and other provisions, are purchased at wholesale, and the children are comfortably furnished out of these—some requiring more and some less. Also, the farm, mills, and mechanic shop, yield a considerable part of the support of the school, the amount of which we cannot exactly ascertain. But, in consequence of these resources, we do not actually have to pay out the sum of $100 per annum on each scholar, though we should have had to expend that much on each, had not our society gone to the expense of erecting these shops and mills, and making a large farm. Still, besides what we receive from the Government, our society continues to appropriate liberally of her funds, annually, to carry on this school and other missions among these Indians. My account current is so kept as to show exactly the amount of moneys I receive from every source, and how these moneys are applied. And I have bills of purchase, receipts, and vouchers, for all that I expend.

Our number of scholars for the first two quarters of the year, beginning September 15, 1843, was 110; and for the third quarter, 115; and this last is the number with which we have commenced the fourth and last quarter for the current year. You will perceive, from my account, that the number of Delaware children for the first and second quarters of the present year is smaller than it was last year. This is because formerly we have reported the Munsee children as Delawares, which is not done in this report. The number of Delaware children now on our roll is 38, 14 of whom are females; besides 9 Munsee girls and 3 Munsee boys, who are in fact Delawares, and living on Delaware land, but not identified with them in their moneyed interest. Some of our more advanced scholars have left the school this spring, and gone home—some of them bid fair to become useful men and women. Those now in school are generally advancing in their studies, and both they and their parents seem to be becoming more and more interested in education. I feel very confident that we need nothing but the continued patronage of the Government and the church, and of course the blessings of God upon the whole, to crown our efforts with

transcendent success in the christianizing and civilizing the Indian tribes. And, without intending to speak disparagingly of any branch or appendage of my country's Government, I will venture to say that, if these frontier tribes of Indians be civilized and christianized, they will be a better defence of our borders on which they live than all the troops you can station here.

With sincere respect, your obedient servant,

J. C. BERRYMAN.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(27.)

FEBRUARY 28, 1844.

We, the undersigned, chiefs of the Delaware nation, being invested with full authority to act in the premises for our nation, whom we represent, do hereby agree and bind ourselves as follows, viz: That we will encourage and patronize the Indian manual labor school, now in operation on the Shawnees' land, near the Fort Leavenworth agency site—first, by using our influence to send and keep a suitable number of the children of our tribe in said institution; and, secondly, by applying our school funds to its support. And our great father, the President of the United States, is hereby instructed and respectfully requested to cause to be paid over to Rev. J. C. Berryman, now superintendent of said institution, or to his successor in office, the entire proceeds or interest arising on all our school funds, annually, for the ensuing ten years, together with all arrearages due us to this time on said funds. And the said J. C. Berryman, in behalf of the said institution, agrees to receive and educate any number of Delaware children, not exceeding fifty at any one time, without the consent of the superintendent of said institution. It is herein understood, that the Delaware children, from time to time sent to the above-mentioned institution, are to be comfortably clad and boarded at its expense.

And we, the undersigned chiefs, wish it to be understood, that the instructions herein given to our great father the President, respecting our school funds, are intended to supersede all instructions previously given, contrary to the spirit and intention of this agreement; and our agent, Major R. W. Cummins, is hereby requested to forward this agreement to the department at Washington city, with such explanations as he may think proper to give.

J. C. BERRYMAN.
CAPTAIN NAH KOORIM, his × mark.
CAPTAIN KETCHUM, his × mark.
SACKENDIATHU, his × mark.
SAN KOCHOA, his × mark.
COCHATOWHA, his × mark.
SALT PETER, his × mark.
NAH-QUE-NUN, his × mark.
P. M. SCOT, his × mark.
JOHN PETERS, his × mark.
CAPTAIN SWANAC, his × mark.

Witness: RICHARD W. CUMMINS,
Indian Agent.

I certify, on honor, that the above and foregoing agreement, made and entered into on the 28th day of February, 1844, by and between the Rev. J. C. Berryman, superintendent of the Indian manual labor school now in operation among the Shawnees within the Fort Leavenworth agency, were by me carefully read and explained to the Delaware chiefs whose names are thereunto annexed; and that they, the chiefs, said that they well understood its contents, and that it contained the agreement and understanding which they had made with the Rev. J. C. Berryman, superintendent of the Indian manual labor school; and that the Delaware chiefs made their marks to their names thereto annexed, in my presence.

RICHARD W. CUMMINS,
Indian Agent.

APRIL 22, 1844.

I have read with interest and pleasure the agreement of 28th February last, between the superintendent of the Methodist manual labor school and the chiefs of the Delaware tribe of Indians, by which they devote all their school funds to the education of the children of said tribe, at said institution, for the next ten years; during which time the entire amount of the interest accrued, accruing, and to accrue, shall be paid to the said superintendent or his successor in office.

I am glad to see this agreement. It manifests a friendly disposition to education. I do not see any objection to its conditional ratification by the department.

The interest they are entitled to receive annually is $2,844; and the arrearages of unpaid interest are upwards of $2,000. The terms I would impose are—

1st. That there shall be always at least thirty Delaware children in a course of education at said school; and if, at any time or for any period, there shall be fewer than thirty under instruction, the sum to be paid the superintendent shall abate $100 for every scholar short of the required number of thirty.

2d. That one-half of the scholars shall be females, as near as may be practicable.

3d. That, in addition to the comfortable board and clothing stipulated for, there shall be furnished to every scholar, should he or she unfortunately require it, proper medical aid and advice; and still further, books, stationery, and whatever else shall be necessary to the successful prosecution of their studies and to their comfort and health.

4th. The interest to be paid annually, where it may suit the Treasury; and this ratification to be subject to withdrawal, and the agreement itself to rescision, and to be annulled at the pleasure of the department.

5th. Reports of the number and progress of the Delaware scholars to be made prior to the annual payment.

Respectfully submitted.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD.

APRIL 22, 1844.

Approved, with this additional stipulation and condition: That the first within article shall not in any way impair or change the number of children agreed in the treaty to be educated. That article is meant to limit the

minimum number; but if more Delaware children shall be sent to the school, not exceeding in all fifty, they shall be received and educated upon the terms mentioned.

WILLIAM WILKINS.

(28.)

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October* 25, 1844.

SIR: Herewith are transmitted reports and statements from the superintendents of Spencer and Fort Coffee academies, and of the Chu-ahla, the Wheelock, the Yahnubbee, and the Koonsha female seminaries; from the Rev. R. D. Potts, teacher of a district school; and from the Rev. C. C. Copeland, a Presbyterian; and the Rev. J. M. Steele, a Methodist missionary—all relating to Choctaw school affairs. Also, reports from B. B. R. Barker, Esq., and the Rev. S. G. Patterson, relating to a school among the Quapaws; and from John D. Bemo, school teacher among the Seminoles.

These papers are so full and minute in their details, that but little remains to be said on the subject. They show that, during the past year, three additional schools have gone into operation in the Choctaw country, and that two more are about to commence. A third, that was to have been established at Nannawaya, has been abandoned on account of objections to the location. Of $4,200 provided for its use, the council have recently directed that $2,900 shall be applied to a new institution, which it has done me the honor to call "Armstrong academy," to be superintended by the Rev. R. D. Potts, under the general direction of the Baptist society, who are to contribute $1,000 annually for its benefit. The remaining $1,300 is to be paid out in small sums, to aid in supporting various neighborhood and Sabbath schools, which have sprung up in different quarters under native teachers.

The whole amount annually expended for schools among the Choctaws under the present arrangement is $28,500. Of this sum $18,000 was, until lately, paid them distributively, as part of their annuity, but was voluntarily appropriated by the nation for the instruction of its children—the first instance of the kind, it is believed, on record; $6,000 of it is a fund provided originally by treaty for education, but which may be divided among them distributively, like any other annuity, whenever they require it. In addition to the $28,500, other sums are derived from missionary contributions. The exact amount is not known, but it probably exceeds $2,000 per annum; so that the total expenditure is upwards of $30,000.

I have visited the different Choctaw schools, and attended their examinations as often as other duties would permit; and it gives me pleasure to be able to state, generally, that the appearance and deportment of the scholars, and the proficiency they have made in their studies, reflect the highest credit upon those who have charge of them. The teachers are abundantly competent; many of them would acquit themselves respectably at most institutions in the States, and the improvement of the scholars has in some instances been more rapid than in any case that has ever before fallen under my observation.

A fund was provided in one of the Choctaw treaties for the education of 40 boys for 20 years, which was for a long time expended at the school in Kentucky. In 1842, the council requested that it might be applied to

the education of young men at different colleges in the United States. They became convinced subsequently that a course of instruction at schools in their own country, before sending them to colleges, would be more advantageous to their young men; and that, in the mean while, it would be judicious to reserve the moneys provided by the treaty for the purpose, and let them accumulate. In this manner the council thought a sum might be secured, the income of which, if it was smaller than the present appropriation, would at all events be permanent.

Among other papers herewith sent, is a plan of a school house for the Chickasaws, prepared under the direction of their agent, Colonel Upshaw. The example of the Choctaws has had due effect upon these people. Colonel Alberson, their principal chief, a man of considerable influence, was present during the late session of the Choctaw council. The speeches and discussions relating to school affairs made a deep impression upon him, and he expressed an earnest wish that something might be done for the instruction of his own people.

No returns have been received from the schools in either the Creek or the Cherokee country.

There has been heretofore expended among the Creeks $1,000 a year for the support of two teachers. Their education funds, and those of the Chickasaws, could be more beneficially applied, I think, if placed at the disposal of some missionary society, that would be willing to contribute a reasonable sum in addition. The advantage derived arises not so much from the increase of means, as from the greater certainty of securing experienced and skilful instructors. Whether this suggestion be adopted or not, it is to be hoped that the schools established in either nation will be boarding schools, on the manual labor plan. Experience in the Choctaw country and elsewhere, so far as I am informed, has shown beyond a doubt that no other system is so well calculated for Indian children.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, W. T.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(29.)

GOOD WATER, *August* 3, 1844.

SIR: The Koonsha female seminary, according to arrangements made in January, on the council ground near Boggy, was to commence at this place on the 1st of May, with 15 boarders, under the appropriation made by the general council of the Choctaw nation. The rest were to be taken as soon as buildings could be erected, teachers obtained, and other necessary preparations made, which will probably be accomplished by the 1st of January, 1845. Thirteen of the above number were received on the first of May, one the first of June, and the other, for some unknown cause, did not come at all. Two were previously boarding in the family; and four, living in the neighborhood, also attended the school. The children were uniformly docile and affectionate. The school was vacated on the 22d of July, and is to commence again on the 1st of October.

The superintendent (E. Hotchkin) had a commission from the secretary of the American board to go to New England and obtain teachers for this and for all the schools now under their direction. He is now in Maine, and will probably return, accompanied by the teachers and other assistants, some time in November. Believing, from what you told him in January, that funds for this station could be obtained by the 1st of May, he contracted, previous to his going, with John P. Meloon, to erect the necessary buildings, which are to be finished on the 1st of December next, and then payment is to be made. A copy of the contract has been sent to Mr. Kingsbury, with a request that it might be forwarded to you. We are now greatly in want of funds to defray the necessary expenses of the station. If in any way they could be obtained, it would be a great relief.

Yours, most respectfully,

P. J. HOTCHKIN.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(30.)

CHOCTAW NATION,
Stockbridge, September 17, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I herewith send you a copy of the report I have prepared for the trustees of Spencer academy and other seminaries of the Jyahnobi female seminary, viz:

"CHOCTAW NATION, *September* 16, 1844.

"*To the trustees of Spencer academy, and of the female seminaries of learning in the Choctaw nation*:

"GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure of presenting a report of the Jyahnobi female seminary. The seminary was located at the chalybeate springs, near the dwelling of Mr. Jacob Folsom, on the east side of Mountain fork. The site of the buildings is north of the springs, on high ground, adjacent to the Little Rock road. The school has been accepted by the American board of missions, and has been commenced and will be conducted according to the provisions of the act of the general council establishing the school. Its pecuniary interests are not connected with the missionary stations on Mountain fork. The secretary of the American board requested me to take charge of the seminary for a season.

"Contracts for the erection of nearly all the buildings have been entered into. Mr. William R. Harris took the contract for the steward's house. Messrs. D. Folsom and J. Ward took that for the school house and the teacher's house; Captains J. Folsom and G. Hudson have taken a contract to erect a meat house, a kitchen, and a dining room; no contract is yet made for a corn crib and stable and fences. A well has been dug, which is about 33 feet deep; it is not yet walled. About three acres of land have been cleared, leaving the small trees for shades. The first two contracts are nearly completed; the third is to be completed in the month of November. Arrangements have been commenced for the mason work in the erection of three chimneys. A committee has been selected to examine the buildings, and make their report, before the buildings can be received.

"The amount of Mr. Harris's contract is - - -	$340 00
"The amount of D. Folsom and J. Ward's, including $18 for lathing, is - - - - - - - -	368 00
"The amount of Captains J. Folsom and G. Hudson's is -	408 00
"The amount of Amos Jones's for clearing the site - -	16 75
"And for digging the well and other items, about - -	25 00
	1,157 75

"In addition to the foregoing, there remain several items of expense, which cannot now be stated with accuracy, viz:

"The mason work, board, and other incidental expenses on three chimneys, with the fireplaces and an oven, which may amount to	$200,00
"Walling the well some ten or twelve feet - - -	12 00
"Corn crib, stable, and yards - - - - - -	75 00
"Weatherboarding the houses - - - - -	100 00
"Merchants' bills, for nails, glass, putty, bolts, screws, locks, and latches - - - - - - - - -	100 00
"Expenses of kiln drying plank, board of sawyers, &c. -	40 00
"Twelve bedsteads - - - - - -	48 00
	575 00

"As the plank are sawed in payment of a debt due the mission for buildings, no charge has been made the seminary, except for the board of the hands, hauling, kiln-drying, files, &c.

"Some milch cows, provisions of various kinds, as well as furniture for the houses, and some tools, will be needed before the school can go into operation. The sum allowed for the present year will be expended in the manner already mentioned. The advice of the trustees will be of much importance in regard to the operations of the ensuing year.

"A steward with a family, and two unmarried female teachers of good qualifications, have been applied for to the American board; and it is hoped that they may be able to reach us in the month of December next. A few days since I gave it as my opinion, that the school might commence on the 1st of January next, with sixteen boarding scholars. I had not then completed a detail of the necessary expenses of the current year. It is my wish to have it commence at that time, if possible; but it is evident that we shall be embarrassed for want of funds. The trustees may have it in their power to devise some way to meet the emergency, and to put the school at an early day in successful operation. It has been my wish to have such persons charged with the care of this seminary as will, in every important respect, be competent to the important trust.

"Should the trustees wish for information not contained in this report, and which affects the seminary, they will please make their wishes known.

"May the Lord bless them, and the great interests of learning committed to their care.

"With much respect, I am yours, &c.

"CYRUS BYINGTON."

The above copy will furnish you with information in regard to the most important object connected with my labors in this nation at present. I

have been enabled to pursue my usual course of labors; they have been so often mentioned, that I need not dwell upon them. My old station proved to be unhealthy, being situated in low grounds. A new station, on high ground, one mile and a half north of the old one, was selected, and is now occupied. It is a few minutes walk only from the seminary.

I hope you will find it in your power to visit us, and make glad our labors and our hearts. May the Lord bless you abundantly.

From yours, with much respect and affection,

CYRUS BYINGTON.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Sup't of the S. W. Territory.

(31.)

PROSPECT HILL, CREEK NATION, *August* 24, 1844.

SIR: According to your instructions, I forward you the report of my school.

I opened the school on the 15th of March last. On my first opening, there were forty children attended. They came under the expectation that I would board them; when they found this was not the case, they began to leave the school, until it was reduced to fifteen, at which number it still remains; they are all boys. Eight of them are in two syllables, one in three, and six are in their "ab's." They have become much interested, and very desirous to learn. There are many more, who live a considerable distance from the school, who are anxious to come; but the distance, they say, is too far to carry their Oscof lead for dinner, and therefore they cannot come. If arrangements could be made to board them, or even give them one meal in the middle of the day, there would be a full school. I regret very much I am not able to do it, as I am satisfied those children would be brought on very fast; and if they could, it would have a tendency to wean them from the Indian habits, and prepare them for adopting the manners and habits of civilized life. All the Seminole parents are very desirous their children should go to school.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN D. BEMO.

THOMAS L. JUDGE, *Seminole Agent.*

(32.)

NEOSHO INDIAN SUB-AGENCY, *August* 16, 1844.

SIR: I herewith transmit the report of the Rev. S. G. Patterson, a missionary and school teacher among the Quapaw Indians. By reference to that report, you will see that the school under his charge at this time numbers sixteen children, ten of whom are boys, and six girls—all clothed and fed at the mission, and furnished with books and other necessary articles of usefulness by the Methodist church.

Feeling a deep and abiding interest in every thing relative to the prosperity and advancement in the blessings of civilization of this unhappy and

semi-barbarous people, I have examined and watched with much anxiety the principles and manner upon which this school has been conducted, as well as the progress made in learning by the scholars attending, and am prepared to say, that the children have learned far beyond my most sanguine expectations.

As an illustration, it is only necessary for me to state, that eighteen months or two years ago they were as good as naked, half fed, and perhaps had never seen a book of any description; they are now well clothed, supplied with good and wholesome food, and are spelling and reading most beautifully, and, what is still more interesting, paying the strictest attention to the moral and divine instructions of their pious teacher; all of which has been done through the benevolence and philanthropy of the Methodist church. This school will be of lasting benefit to the Quapaw nation. It has most conclusively convinced me of the error of the opinion entertained by very many of the best citizens of our country, who are laboring under the belief that the Indian cannot be improved to much extent by our efforts to civilize and enlighten them. This erroneous opinion is most unfortunate for the race of the red man. However, I indulge the hope soon to see error give way to experience and truth.

The missionary deserves much praise for his efforts among these people; the attention to his duties has been unremitted, and I do not believe that any man could have done more good, with the limited means afforded, than he has done. I expect soon to have a school in operation, supported by the United States Government, under treaty stipulations. The Indians are gratified at the idea of having one on Government account located among them. The remaining two tribes of this agency (Senecas and a mixed band of Senecas and Shawnees) do not as tribes feel much interest as yet upon the subject of education, nor do they wish for the establishment of missions among them, although I have repeatedly in council brought the subject before them, and recommended its adoption in the strongest terms. I am happy to be enabled to say, that a few of the leading men of each tribe are in favor of schools. One of them, a Shawnee man, has at this time two boys at Kanzas River mission; and another, a Seneca chief, expresses some anxiety to have his children educated. I hope ultimately to succeed in inducing them, as a tribe, to become favorable to education. They are not provided for by the treaty, but could, if they would, appropriate a part of their annuities to education purposes.

In April last, we were favored by a visit from the Rev. N. Sayere Harris, of New York, who made a tour of exploration through the Indian territory. His visit to this country I hope and trust will be in the end productive of much good. Information of the destitution of their red brethren, imparted by such an intelligent and correct source, must have a tendency to excite the sympathy of the philanthropist in their behalf. This once the case, and they will ere long become a happy, a prosperous, and a *Christian people.*

With high regard and esteem, I am, most respectfully, your very obedient servant,

B. B. R. BARKER, *U. S. Agent.*

Hon. T. Hartley Crawford,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City.

(33.)

QUAPAW METHODIST MISSION,
Indian Territory, August 16, 1844.

DEAR SIR: The Quapaw manual labor school closed its third term on the 7th instant. I have the pleasure to report favorably of the progress of the scholars during the past year. In connexion with other arduous labors, we have kept the school in successful operation. I am happy to inform you that the children are progressing in their studies, in industry and morality, to the admiration of all who have favored us with a visit. We find that the plan of educating the Indian children in their own country, and of boarding and clothing them at the mission, succeeds admirably, and is perhaps the only way in which a school can be conducted to profit among unenlightened Indians. The present location of this establishment is, in my judgment, the best that could have been selected, being situated in a beautiful forest on the east bank of the Pomme de Terre river—high, dry, and healthy, embracing, in one body, prairie and timbered land of good quality, with water, rock, and other conveniences. We have commenced opening a farm, which will be improved as we have means, and the wants of the school require. The school numbers at this time ten boys and six girls. Scarcity of funds heretofore has compelled us to limit our number to sixteen. We are, however, greatly encouraged by the information we receive through you of benevolent designs of the Government towards this school. The united exertions of the Government and the missionary society will doubtless prove a lasting blessing to this interesting people. I need not enter into particulars relative to the school, as you have knowledge, from personal observation, of its condition. The interest you have manifested for its prosperity has secured the confidence and esteem of the superintendent, the teacher, the Indians, and the public generally.

Yours, truly,
S. G. PATTERSON.

Colonel B. B. R. BARKER,
United States Indian Agent.

(34.)

NORWALK, CHOCTAW NATION,
August 15, 1844.

Although my school is a mission school, I thought I would send you a short report of it. I commenced teaching at this place in November last, and continued until the usual time of vacation. The whole number of scholars that have come to the school during the time is upwards of fifty. Upwards of thirty can read in the English Testament. Fifteen have learned to write on paper; most of the others have learned to write on slates. Twelve have paid some attention to arithmetic; most of them have been confined to the fundamental rules. Only one has paid any attention to grammar.

Considering good spelling and reading as the foundation of a good education, I have confined the attention of my school principally to their

spelling and reading books. The first class have been through the Elementary Spelling Book, except the words defined at the last part, the second class nearly through, and the lower classes are more or less advanced in it.

One great difficulty in keeping a district school in successful operation is the irregularity of scholars in attendance. This arises from several causes—in part from a want of public opinion or interest in favor of schools; in part from the insubordination of children at home; in part from the circumstance that children are often detained at home, to perform errands, and assist about the farm, or look after the stock; and, finally, from the cold indifference of many parents on the subject. This is probably the greatest obstacle which hinders the successful operation of the district school. These several causes combined render it very difficult for the teacher to keep up such an interest as will secure a full and punctual attendance. They have operated with such effect, that, though more than fifty have been at my school, my average attendance hardly equals twenty.

The neighbors are desirous that the school should still be kept in operation; and, as I am located here, I intend to commence again at the usual time in the fall.

Yours, most truly,

CHARLES C. COPELAND.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent of Choctaws, Choctaw Agency.

(35.)

CHOCTAW MISSION, ARKANSAS,
August 8, 1844.

DEAR SIR: We are happy to inform you that that portion of the Choctaws among whom we have been laboring for a few months are rapidly advancing to a state of civilization.

Our work is of an itinerant character. We have fifteen regular preaching places, at most of which we have good congregations. Most of those who are religiously disposed are making some provisions for support. Many of them will make corn enough to bread them; some a surplus.

Our societies are generally in a prosperous condition. Our Sabbath schools have been much retarded in their operations, owing to the great want of books, which could not be obtained.

We have recently furnished a school of thirty scholars with English spelling books, and the parents of the children have employed a native teacher (Simon P. Willis) to take charge of it. We hope it will prosper.

Yours, &c.

J. M. STEELE.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG, *Indian Agent.*

(36.)

WHEELOCK, *September* 23, 1844.

DEAR SIR: The school at Wheelock closed on the 19th July, after a protracted examination of two days. The examination drew together a

number of the friends of the school, who appeared delighted with the proficiency the pupils had made in their respective studies. It also awakened, if I mistake not, a deeper interest in behalf of the female schools, and inspired a greater degree of confidence with respect to the healthful influence they will yet have upon the nation.

It affords me much gratification that you have visited these schools. You have thus been enabled to form a more correct opinion of the competency, fidelity, and success of the teachers, and of the actual attainments of their pupils, than you could from any statement of mine. All that I shall therefore attempt, in the present communication, will be to lay before you a few brief statements with respect to the statistics of the school, the daily exercises of the pupils, and the prospect of the mission in the more immediate sphere of my labors.

Whole number of scholars during the year	53
by parents and friends	13
by the mission	3
Pay scholars rom the neighberhood	13

Died during the year, 2—one of them on the appropriation; both sickly children, and both died at home.

Studying English grammar, 5; geography, 17; arithmetic, 17; writers, 34; read and spell well, 34; in easy lessons in reading and spelling, 19.

The Bible is daily and carefully studied by all who can read.

Reading books used: New Testament, Child's Guide, Intelligent Reader, Todd's Truth Made Simple, and Gallaudet's Natural Theology.

Spelling books: Town's, Webster's, New York, and New York Primer.

As much attention as practicable is given to singing.

At the opening of the school in the morning, a hymn is sung, and a prayer offered by the teacher. A verse of scripture is also recited by all who are able to do it. Five hours in winter, and five and a half in summer, are devoted in the morning to books, and four hours in the afternoon to needlework and other manual exercises. The girls are taught plain and ornamental needlework, knitting, netting, making, &c. Of those boarded at Wheelock, fifteen can card and spin well; others are learning.

They are also required, when out of school, to take part in domestic duties, and are for that purpose divided into several companies, each division taking its turn in rotation.

There is a valuable library of juvenile books of more than 200 volumes attached to the station. We have also Holbrook's astronomical school apparatus, a large map of the world and of the United States, and also a large terrestrial globe. Care will be taken to have the school supplied with the most approved school books.

The prospects of the mission in this vicinity are encouraging; ——— have, on profession, been added to the church at Wheelock since my last report; two of these are pupils in the school. Ten or fifteen more are expected to unite at the first opportunity.

Six Sabbath schools connected with this station are in operation, embracing about 300 learners, and all taught, with the exception of the one at Wheelock, by native teachers. Some of these schools are taught only on the Sabbath; others on Saturday and the Sabbath; and one only on Saturday. Besides, reading, writing, and arithmetic, are taught in several of them. All instruction is given in the Choctaw language. The good influence of these schools is very perceptible.

The four Gospels, Acts of the Apostles, several of the minor Epistles, and book of Revelation, have been translated. The Gospel of St. Matthew, Acts of the Apostles, and several of the Epistles, have been printed, but are now, with most of the Choctaw books, out of print. It is desirable to have all the portions of the Bible translated and printed as soon as practicable. The American Bible society have generously offered to defray the expense of printing the portions of scripture which have been translated.

May we not hope that you will be able to visit the school, again, when you come over to pay out the annuity? The influence on the children of the school cannot fail to be salutary.

Very respectfully and affectionately,

ALFRED WRIGHT.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(37.)

PINE RIDGE, CHOCTAW NATION, *August* 26, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I herewith send you a report of the school at this place for the year ending July 1, 1844.

The school was commenced on the 15th November last, and was attended by seventeen scholars who were boarded in the family, and six day scholars—twenty-three in all.

About the middle of January, the Chuahla female seminary was located at Pine Ridge. As considerable preparations had previously been made for the accommodation of a boarding school at the station, we were able without much delay to commence operations under the new arrangement.

On the first of March the seminary was opened for the admission of sixteen pupils—three from Moshuletubbe district, four from Pushimataha district, and nine from Puckshenubbee district. This number was subsequently increased, by request of Colonel Pitchlynn and Colonel Fletcher, to twenty-one; some of these did not enter the seminary until May. Twelve others were boarded at the expense of their parents or other friends, and there were two day scholars, making thirty-five in all.

The buildings at the station had been erected at the expense of the American board of commissioners for foreign missions. The stock, farming tools, wagons, horses, furniture, &c., was also the property of the missionary board. This being the situation of the property at the station, it will probably be thought best that these should remain the property of the board, and that any additional buildings or repairs that may be needed be made without drawing upon the school funds, leaving the whole of what was appropriated by the general council, and also the proportion contributed by the missionary board, applicable to the support of scholars, the pay of the teachers and superintendent, and the purchase of books and stationery. The above arrangement will place the school on the same basis as that at Wheelock.

My labors as a missionary the past year have been similar to those of the two preceding years. During the autumn and winter there was a very pleasing interest manifested on the subject of religion in some of the congregations where I preached. For the year ending in April last there were added to the three churches to which Mr. Hotchkin and myself minister,

eighty-eight members. Of late, I have not been able to visit the more distant preaching places so frequently as formerly. Mr. Hotchkin has also been absent, and the attention to the subject of religion has very much declined.

The interest manifested by the Choctaws on the subject of schools is a very pleasing feature in the aspect of the present times. Every friend of Indian improvement must rejoice in the liberal provision which has been made by the nation for the education of their children. At this important crisis in the affairs of the Choctaws, it is greatly to be desired that their efforts for the improvement of the rising generation should be sustained by a corresponding regard to the great principles of morality and religion without which mere intellectual culture will be of little avail.

It is generally conceded by intelligent and reflecting men, both in Europe and America, that history furnishes no instance of the introduction of civilization among benighted tribes, except through the influence of the Christian religion. If this be true, the present efforts of the Choctaws will be successful or otherwise, just in proportion as the institutions of the gospel are regarded or neglected. Among a people thus situated, the importance of the Christian Sabbath and of a preached gospel cannot be too highly estimated. The great body of the Choctaws, if they were disposed, are not able to read the word of God for themselves. The convocations of the Sabbath and the living preacher furnish almost the only opportunities for them to become acquainted with their great moral duties.

Every influence which tends to impress upon their minds the value of the Christian Sabbath, and of its appropriate duties, must so far tend to elevate them in the scale of intellectual and moral improvement; and every influence whose tendency is to lessen in their estimation the importance of the Sabbath and its duties must so far hinder their advancement. It has been well observed by Mr. Pinckney, of South Carolina, that the Christian religion furnishes the only incentives which can effectually restrain men from their own excesses. This remark is peculiarly applicable to people like the Choctaws, in the transition state between the savage and civilized state.

Increasing numbers from different parts of the world are taking up their abode in this nation, either for a limited time or for life. These are daily enstamping their own moral image on those natives with whom they have intercourse. We look with trembling to the effects which this foreign influence is about to exert through this infant community. Should this influence be favorable to the gospel and its institutions, we shall have a most important auxiliary to the cause of education. If, on the other hand, the importance of the gospel should be overlooked, and its institutions neglected—if the impression should prevail that schools are sufficient of themselves, without the gospel, to renovate and exalt the nation to a standing among the enlightened families of the earth—there will be experienced, sooner or later, an awful disappointment.

The influence of a few religious teachers, where the doctrines and the duties of religion are not regarded by the community generally, can never accomplish the objects of an enlightened Christian education. Religion can never prosper without learning, nor learning without religion.

Schools, to be successful, must be sustained by a pervading religious influence, impressing on the community a sense of personal responsibility, and of our obligations to obey the divine commands.

Please excuse the length of these remarks. By some they might be

thought irrelevant to the object of this report. In my estimation, they have an important bearing on the efforts now making by the Choctaws to educate the rising generation, and to attain a standing among the civilized and enlightened families of the earth.

I am, with great respect, yours truly,

C. KINGSBURY,
Sup't Chuahla Female Seminary.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Sup't Indian Territory.

P. S. The house which is being built at this station, for the accommodation of the pupils and teachers, will, we hope, be ready to receive them early in October.

C. K.

(38.)

SPENCER ACADEMY, *August* 29, 1844.

SIR: At the close of our academical term, it becomes my duty, according to your instructions, to present to you a report of the operations of Spencer academy since the institution came under my charge. In attempting to discharge this duty, I forward to you the following brief history of our proceedings for the period which has since elapsed, combined with a succinct account of the present state of the establishment.

It was originally designed to have the school opened on the 1st of January last, but as my appointment as superintendent did not take place until late in the fall, (November 11,) it was impossible for me to have the preparations sufficiently advanced to make so early a commencement practicable. At my arrival on the 8th of December, the clothing for the scholars, beds, bedding, and other furniture, purchased in Boston, had just been received at the landing on Red river; and at the academy itself, no preparations whatever had been made, beyond the erection of the larger and more necessary buildings. An amount of work was therefore necessary to be done before we could be said to be ready for the reception of scholars, of which those who have no practical acquaintance with such institutions can have no suitable idea.

As soon as possible after my arrival, the erection of the necessary outbuildings was commenced, and carpenters were employed to make the heavy furniture, &c. By the middle of January, our preparations were so far advanced that the trustees were informed that the academy would be in a condition to receive scholars by the first of February. The trustees having made arrangements for the selection of sixty scholars—one from each company in the nation—to enter the school at the date last mentioned, the school was opened for their reception at that time. Contrary to our expectations, the scholars came in very slowly for the first two or three weeks; but, by the end of February, 57 had been received.

At their meeting in January, when the trustees determined to admit 60 scholars on the first of February, they also made provision for the admission of 40 additional scholars on the first of May, to be chosen from the districts, according to their population. This measure was carried into effect at the time specified; for, though it was a measure of questionable policy, the

buildings being yet insufficient for the accommodation of so large a number of boarding scholars, the expenditure of our surplus funds in another way being needed, in order to render the establishment in some measure complete, it was called for by the ardent desire of the people to afford their children the means of instruction, and the necessity imposed upon the trustees of showing that there was no disposition to create unnecessary delay.

The trustees having made provision for the appointment of two assistant teachers, Mr. Reuben Wright and Mr. Jonathan E. Dwight were selected by the principal teacher and myself, to aid him in his labors. The school, in consequence of these appointments, was divided into three departments. The following is a brief statement of the numbers in each department, with their studies, &c., during the latter part of the term.

First department, under the special instruction of Mr. William Wilson, principal teacher—33 boarding scholars, 3 day scholars—total 36.

First class, 2 boys—studying Latin (Cæsar's Commentaries) and Emerson's arithmetic, part third.

Second class, 6 boys—studying English grammar, Emerson's second and third parts, and one of them algebra.

Third class, 8 boys—studying spelling, reading, writing, Emerson's arithmetic, first and second parts, and geography.

Fourth class, 20 boys—studying spelling, reading, writing, and Emerson's arithmetic, first part.

The boys in this department generally understand, though they do not all speak, the English language. Mr. Wilson, besides having this department under his immediate care, has had the supervision of the labors of the assistant teachers.

Second department, under the instruction of Mr. Reuben Wright—32 boarding scholars, 6 day scholars—total 38.

First class, 9 boys—spelling, reading, Emerson's arithmetic, first part.

Second class, 12 boys—easy reading, Emerson's arithmetic, first part.

Third class, 8 boys—spelling, easy reading, Emerson's arithmetic, first part.

Fourth class, 6 boys—spelling.

Fifth class, 3 boys—spelling in six letters.

In this department are twelve boys who understand English. The remaining twenty-six are acquainted with the Choctaw only; and twenty-three commenced in the alphabet.

Third department, under the instruction of Mr. Jonathan E. Dwight—30 boarding scholars, 5 day scholars—total 35.

First class, 10 boys—Reading, spelling, and Emerson's arithmetic, first part.

Second class, 9 boys—spelling in three syllables.

Third class, 10 boys—spelling in two syllables, &c.

Fourth class, 6 boys—spelling in four letters, &c.

But one scholar in this division understands any English, and all but eight in the first class entered the first of May. The teacher, understanding both languages, generally explains the English words which occur in spelling in the vernacular language.

The teachers have been faithful in the discharge of their duties; and, at the examination, it was evident to every visiter what pains had been bestowed to ensure improvement on the part of the scholars; and the latter possess as much capacity for being benefited by education as youth of the

same age and previous training, selected in the same way, would do in any part of the United States. Generally they appear to have taken great interest in their studies, and, in some instances, uncommon ardor in the pursuit of knowledge has been displayed.

The total number of scholars has varied considerably at different times, owing to frequent desertions, especially in the beginning of the term. The whole number of cases of desertion has amounted to about thirty, though several of these cases have been second or third offences by the same individual. This great source of vexation to the officers of the institution, it is now well understood in this country, does not arise from any want of kind treatment of the scholars while at the academy. In attempting to account for the disposition to desert, it should be remembered that the majority of our boys, while at home, have been permitted to go where and do what they please, have been fed and clothed in different style, and have never attempted to exercise their minds by application to study. When they come here, on the contrary, for the purpose of maintaining good order, it is necessary to confine them to the premises, to set them to work during stated hours, to keep them in the school house for hours together, to interdict some of their accustomed sports, to furnish them with tight clothing, to feed them with unaccustomed articles of food, to keep them almost constantly under our eye, and, above all, to separate them from their home and friends, at the same time not being able to deprive them of the means of going back to them, as they need neither road, conveyance, nor a supply of provisions for the journey. Under these circumstances, it should not be a matter of surprise that so many have attempted to escape, especially when it is well known that the mothers of the boys are very reluctant to allow their young sons to leave them—so much so that in some instances the scholars allowed to enter the academy from the more distant companies were obtained with difficulty.

I am happy to say that our scholars have generally enjoyed good health; and by residence here many of them have evidently improved in strength and appearance. We have had a number of slight cases of dysentery, intermittent fever, bilious disorder of the stomach and bowels, and one case of slight congestive fever. The administration of simple remedies in time, and careful treatment, have always been sufficient. At the time of the examination on the 30th July, the scholars were all in the enjoyment of good health and spirits; so that, as far as we can judge at the present time, the situation is decidedly healthy.

Our farming operations have been under the immediate supervision of Mr. George C. Farquhar. Our principal crop this year has been Indian corn, of which we have had about fifty-five acres in cultivation, considered one of the best raised this year in this part of the nation. In order to procure land for cultivation, an improvement belonging to a Choctaw adjoining the academy premises, according to the direction of the trustees, was purchased last winter. All the scholars have been required to work, when well, three hours per day. Forty of them have been employed on the farm most of the summer, twenty of them hoeing the corn, after the ploughs, and twenty in clearing new ground. About fifteen acres have been cleared and got ready for cultivation next season, principally by the labor of the boys. The rest of the scholars have been employed in different kinds of work, according to their strength, on the farm, in the garden,

or about the academy premises. It is hoped that, by another year, our farm will pay our expenses for food, and in part for clothing.

During the whole of the term we have had preaching on the Sabbath, with the exception of two or three days, when I have been unable to officiate. Mr. J. E. Dwight, one of our assistant teachers, himself a Choctaw, has been in the habit of interpreting my discourses to the scholars, who do not understand the English language. This service occupies the forenoon of the Sabbath. In the afternoon we have a school for religions instruction, in conducting which I am assisted by Mr. Wright and Mr. Dwight. All of the scholars are required to attend. In addition to these weekly exercises, we have had morning and evening prayers every day.

In these religious services the scholars generally seem to take as much interest as could be expected; and their deportment, while attending upon them, has been uniformly very good. On the subject of having a strong religious influence exerted here, I have thought and felt much, and am happy to find the most intelligent and worthy citizens of the nation concurring with me in opinion respecting it. Experience has decided that education alone will not reclaim the Indian from his wild habits, and at the same time has proven, that where religious instruction has been combined with intellectual culture, and *has been equally successful,* nothing more was wanting to produce the desired result. Strange that any should be found who, in their efforts to improve and elevate the aboriginal race, should have dreamed of success, while neglecting to bestow as much attention upon the active as upon the reflective powers of his mind. It is evident that, unless the education of Indian youth is conducted in such a manner as, with the divine blessing, will secure the existence of a due proportion of true Christians in the adult community divinely described as "the salt of the earth," and the exercise of a religious influence there, to curb and restrain wild and unruly spirits, give tone to society, and form the right kind of public spirit to sustain the laws, your efforts may result in the exhibition of a semi-barbarous, semi-civilized, Turko-Chinese nation, but never in the production of an enlightened, well-organized society.

Much of my time since my appointment has been consumed in the labor and attention necessary to erect suitable outbuildings, and in other respects prepare the institution for the comfortable accommodation of the scholars. We have erected the following buildings of hewn pine logs, shingle roofed, pointed and finished in neat substantial style: A *storehouse* 30 feet by 18, divided into two apartments, one for storing up flour and our heavy groceries, the other finished with shelves, in the manner of stores, for the preservation of clothing, books, stationery, and to answer at the same time for an office; a *smoke house* 18 by 18 feet—(this building is large enough to contain 20,000 pounds of bacon, besides having room for storing up lard, soap, and fresh meat;) a farmer's and workmen's house, 30 by 18 feet, one story and a half, containing four rooms, and furnished with a double chimney; a spring house, 12 by 15 feet, paved with stone, and so situated that the surplus water of the spring passes through it, overflowing one-half of the floor. In addition to these buildings, a negro house and a wash house have been erected by the labor of the boys.

An additional range of lodging rooms, to be called Jones Hall, was ordered to be built by the trustees at their meeting in May last. According to the instructions then given me, I contracted for the delivery of lumber and for the building of the stone underpinning walls and chimneys,

and as soon as possible commenced operations. The work was commenced about the first of June. In the latter part of July, the frame was put up, and the house is now weather boarded, one chimney is built, and the carpenters are engaged in shingling the roof. The building is 64 feet by 24, with double galleries, containing eight rooms 16 feet square. It is hoped that it will be finished by the middle of October, and will probably cost $2,000.

It is unnecessary for me to say much about the expenses of the academy, as the arrangement which has been made as respects the manner of paying out money brings this matter as much under your notice, and that of the department, as under my own. It is obvious, however, that a large establishment, such as this is, located in the Indian country itself, at so great a distance from supplies, to which the means of conveyance are so expensive, must necessarily cost a large sum of money; and especially in the first years of its existence. Gradually, as our farm increases, and as the institution becomes furnished with such help as will enable us properly to economize our means, it is hoped that its expenses will be diminished, and it will become possible to extend its fostering care over a greater number of the interesting youths of this tribe.

Before I close this report, allow me to acknowledge the receipt of a valuable bell for the use of the academy, weighing about 250 pounds, presented by the Hon. John C. Spencer, former Secretary of War, after whom the institution has been named, and to whom we hope it will ever be an honor of the noblest and most enduring description.

My thanks are also due to you for the assistance you have afforded me on so many occasions in the discharge of my arduous duties. It is my sincere desire that you may long enjoy health and strength in this trying climate, and the means of continuing your useful exertions for the good of this nation.

Respectfully and sincerely yours, &c.

EDMUND McKENNEY,
Superintendent Spencer Academy.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
United States Agent for the Choctaws.

(39.)

PROVIDENCE, CHOCTAW NATION, *August* 29, 1844.

DEAR SIR: The accompanying documents are the report of the school under my charge, for the year ending August 31, 1844. It is gratifying to me to have to report a growing desire on the part of the Indians for the education of their children, which must result in their religious, moral, and intellectual improvement. Though I am not able to report as large a number as the preceding year, the improvement of those who have attended has been as great as any previous one. The cause of this decrease is the prohibition of the Choctaws against the Chickasaw children attending their schools; since which time, no Chickasaws have attended the school. Whether or not this arrangement will ultimately be advantageous to both nations, time alone will unfold.

In addition to the school, I have endeavored to teach the necessity of

religion, to constitute them a virtuous and happy people. With gratitude to God would I record it, that I have reason to believe that it has had a salutary effect. Many of them have felt the necessity of, and experienced, I trust, a change of heart, twenty-seven having united with the church the past year.

It is certainly a gratification to the Christian and the philanthropist to see many of this people, whose minds but a few years since were shrouded in darkness, now standing forth as the advocates of those principles, which, if persevered in, must place them upon an equality with the most favored nations. Though their improvement may appear to be slow to those whose actions are based upon selfish principles, yet to those whose aim is to bring them to adopt those principles which will be subservient to their spiritual and temporal welfare, it is as great as could be expected. When we consider the causes which are in operation which have a tendency to retard their advancement, it seems a wonder that they have improved as fast as they have. No doubt, many of those causes are known to yourself.

There seems to be an innate propensity in man to practise vice rather than virtue, and any thing which has a tendency to gratify this disposition is eagerly seized upon. And, again, inferiors in morals and science are apt to look up to their superiors in such attainments for a development of their superiority, not only by precept, but by example also. Consequently, whatever the theory may be, if the practice does not correspond, it will avail nothing.

It is frequently asserted, that do what you will for an Indian, he will be an Indian still; the meaning of which I presume is, that his condition never can be improved—he will still continue the degraded being he always was. Experience falsifies such groundless assertions. Why are such things said? Is it not from selfish and interested motives? Willingly would they who assert such keep the Indian in ignorance and degradation, that their own pernicious purposes might prosper. The influence of such is far greater than a casual observer would suppose. Many of these are considered as innocent recreations, and their evil effects are known principally by those whose object is their religious and literary renovation.

Too much encouragement is given to the practice of such vices, by those who consider the Indian as far their inferior in morals and science. If the example is bad, must not the influence be deleterious also, and will it not have a tendency to draw the mind from the contemplation of those sublime truths which elevate the character of man, and make him the recipient of an eternity of bliss? On the other hand, should those whose higher attainments qualify them for it, set a different example, and show them the superiority of virtue and industry over idleness and vice, much good would no doubt result.

The crops are generally very good, and a sufficiency will be raised for their consumption. In some parts of this district there has been a disposition to intemperance, but, upon the whole, I think that temperance principles are gaining ground.

All of which is respectfully submitted, by your obedient servant,

RAMSAY D. POTTS.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Agent for Choctaws.

(40.)

FORT COFFEE ACADEMY,
Choctaw Nation, September 12, 1844.

DEAR SIR: The time has arrived when it is proper that I should present, through you, to the department, a report of the progress and condition of the institution under my charge. Having, however, once addressed you officially since the opening of our school, and having on that occasion submitted an outline of our plans, together with all matters deemed of importance connected with our organization, I shall not now recapitulate, but refer you to my communication, bearing date the 1st of March last, from which you will please to make any extracts which you may deem necessary to accompany your report.

Our session closed on the 24th of July, by a public examination. Among those present on that occasion were some of the most intelligent and influential men in this part of the nation; although it is to be regretted that those who fill the principal official stations in this district are men wholly unprepared to appreciate the advantages of education, and consequently but little disposed, by their presence or otherwise, to do any thing for its promotion among their people, I am happy to learn that in the other districts of this nation it is otherwise. And it is greatly to be desired that they should be brought to co-operate here, or that their places should be filled with others, whose influence and example shall tend more to the intellectual and moral improvement of this part of the nation. Such men they have, and they are the men who should be promoted.

Of the examination itself, perhaps it does not become me to speak particularly, as yourself and other competent gentlemen were present, and can make such representations of the condition of the school and advancement of the pupils as you may conceive the occasion to merit. Suffice it to say, that the observations made during the past session, in connexion with the experience of former years in institutions of learning among the whites, have confirmed me in the truth of the following opinions:

1. That the Choctaw youths, in point of capacity for literary acquirements, are not at all inferior to whites similarly circumstanced.

2. That in the exercise of moral discipline, and the regulations necessarily adopted at an institution of learning, they are even more submissive, and even more easily governed, than is usually the case among whites.

3. That they will, with proper care and instruction, acquire habits of personal industry, become good practical agriculturists or mechanics—in short, fill any of the necessary or the useful occupations of life.

4. I may add, as the great means of securing and giving permanency to all their improvement in other respects, that it will not be difficult, by proper and judicious exertions, to impress their minds with the great truths of the Christian religion, and, with the divine blessing, be instrumental in bringing many of their hearts under gospel influence—an influence without which, as all experience proves, all efforts for the real and permanent improvement of their condition must be fruitless and unavailing. Some of the most pleasing reflections connected with our brief labors among them arise from the belief that some of them have already become the subjects of a genuine work of grace.

I may state, in connexion with the foregoing remarks, that, although the moral conduct and general deportment of all has been unexpectedly good,

in many instances exemplary, and though their general improvement has been highly satisfactory, still a marked difference is observable between the advancement of the younger boys and those that are nearly or quite grown up to manhood. It is especially observable in their learning to speak the English language, without which, their acquirements in other respects will be of little value. It is with great difficulty that the older boys can be induced to make an effort in that way. They learn to read and even to write the language with considerable accuracy, and yet remain almost entirely unable to converse. The younger boys, on the contrary, learn to speak the language with surprising facility. Nor is their superiority confined to this particular. They will acquire and confirm habits of industry, the comforts and advantages of civilized life will become familiar to them, and they will in every respect be better prepared to act their part in life. The nation has infinitely more to expect from those that enter the school between the ages of ten and sixteen, than from those that have passed that age. It is unfortunate that, in the selection of boys, any deviation was made from the rule adopted by the general council.

We have been gratified to find, from the experience of this year, that the fears heretofore entertained of the unhealthiness of the site of our institution are groundless, although the present season has, as is generally thought, been one of peculiar exposure to disease, from an extraordinary and long-continued overflow; still, we had not one case of serious illness among our scholars; all left in good health. It is to be hoped that all prejudices growing out of this supposition will be done away. Our crop is good.

Our limited means, together with our heavy expenditures in preparing for and opening the male department, have hitherto prevented any thing being done in reference to the female department contemplated as a branch of this institution, but located some miles distant. By persevering economy, however, we have been able to discharge all liabilities heretofore contracted, and are able to report our finances now in a good state. With the concurrent favorable action of the approaching general council, which we hope for, we expect shortly to be able to put the buildings under contract, and make all the necessary arrangements for opening that department also. The missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal church, under whose immediate charge this institution is placed, has promptly paid up her proportion of the appropriation, and even gone quite beyond the amount stipulated. New arrangements have been adopted for the more efficient prosecution of our missionary and educational enterprises in the Indian country, and we have every reason, through the divine blessing, to expect that success and prosperity which never fail to attend well-meant and well-directed efforts for bettering the condition and promoting the happiness of any portion of the human race.

Respectfully,

WILLIAM H. GOODE,
Superintendent Fort Coffee Academy.

Captain WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Superintendent Western Territory.

(41.)

JULY 24, 1844.

Report of the public schools taught in the Cherokee nation for the year 1844, given to the end of the first session.

Schools in Tarlequah district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will soon be out. This school was put in operation in the year 1841, and has been taught three-quarters of the time. This school will average from 20 to 35 children; 10 of this number orphans. Rev. Thomas Bartholp, teacher, (citizen of the nation by marriage.)

Salary per session of 22 weeks - - - - - -	$166 66
For board and clothing orphan children per session - -	100 00
Expenses of session of 22 weeks, No. 1 - -	266 66

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will soon expire. This school was established and commenced operation in February last. It averages from 35 to 50 children, 4 of whom are orphans. Mr. Root, present teacher, (citizen of the nation by marriage.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$169 73
For board and clothing orphan children per session - -	60 00
Expenses for session of 22 weeks, No. 2 - -	229 73

Schools in Saline district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 has just expired. It has been in operation a greater portion of the time since the year 1841; averaged the first session from 20 to 30 children; orphans 4. Mr. Edwin Archer, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$166 66
For board and clothing orphan children per session - -	60 00
No. 3 - - - - - -	226 66

No. 2. This school was established and put into operation the 1st of March last, and was not taught the session out, owing to the sickness of some of the children, and the non-attendance of others, being prevented by high waters. For the time taught, it averaged from 15 to 30 children; 4 orphans. Rev. J. Essep, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Teacher's salary for the time taught - - - -	$110 60
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	80 00
No. 4 - - - - - -	190 00

Schools in Delaware district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 is about ending. It was established in the year 1841, and has been in operation the most of the time since. It will average from 20 to 40 children; 5 orphans. Mr. Charles Pulsifer, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary per session of 22 weeks - - - - -	$169 23
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 5 - - - - - - -	259 23

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 is about ending. It was established in the year 1841, and has been in operation most of the time since. It will average about 35 children; 6 orphans. Mr. —— Upham, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$169 23
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 6 - - - - - - -	259 23

No. 3. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will expire shortly. It was established and put into operation about the 1st of April last. It will average about 50 children; 6 orphans. Mr. William Thompson, teacher, (native Cherokee.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$169 23
Boarding and clothing orphan children - - - - -	100 00
No. 7 - - - - - - -	269 23

Schools in Going Snake district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 has just expired. It was put into operation in the year 1841, and has been kept up most of the time since. It will average from 30 to 40 children, six of whom are orphans. Mr. —— Frye, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 8 - - - - - - -	259 66

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 is about closing. It was established in the year 1841, and has been in operation most of the time since. It will average from 30 to 40 children; six orphans. Mr. J. B. Carnes, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphans per session - - -	100 00
No. 9 - - - - - - -	266 66

No. 3. The first session of this school for the year 1844 is about closing. It was established and put into operation about the 1st of March last. It will average about 30 children; four orphans. Mr. Walter D. Collins, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	80 00
No. 10 - - - - - - -	246 66

Schools in Flint district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 has just closed. It was established in the year 1841, and has been in operation most of the time since. It will average about 35 children; seven orphans. Mr. —— Brownlee, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$169 23
For boarding and clothing orphan children per session - -	100 00
No. 11 - - - - - - -	269 23

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will be out about the 1st of September next. It will average from 40 to 50 children; eight orphans. Rev. George W. Morris, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

For boarding and clothing orphans per session - - -	$100 00
Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	166 66
No. 12 - - - - - - -	266 66

No. 3. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will close shortly. It was established and put into operation about the 1st of March last. It will average 40 children; ten orphans. Mr. Allen T. Ward, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	100 00
No. 13 - - - - - - -	266 66

Schools in Illinois district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 has just closed. It was established in the year 1841, and has been in operation most of the time since. It averages, this session, about 25 children; five orphans. Mr. Rawls, teacher, (citizen by marriage.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 14 - - - - - - -	256 66

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will soon be out. This school was established and put into operation in April last; will average from 25 to 35 children; five orphans. Mr. T. C. McMasters, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 15 - - - - -	256 66

School in Canadian district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will close about the 1st of October next. This school was put in operation in the year 1841, and has been in operation most of the time since. It will average about

40 children; five orphans. Mr. Alvah Lawrence, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 66
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 16 - - - - - - -	256 66

Schools in Skinbayou district:

No. 1. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will be out in September next. This school was established in the year 1841, and it has been in operation the greater portion of the time since. It will average from 25 to 40 children; five orphans. Rev. Joseph S. Bartlett, teacher, (citizen of the United States.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 67
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	90 00
No. 17 - - - - - -	256 67

No. 2. The first session of this school for the year 1844 will close about the 1st of September next. This school was established and put into operation the 1st of April last. It numbers about 40 children; five orphans. Mr. William Vann, teacher, (native Cherokee.)

Salary of teacher per session - - - - -	$166 67
For boarding and clothing orphan children - - -	80 00
No. 18 - - - - - -	246 67

Amount to teachers for one session - - - -	$2,956 69
Amount for orphans, &c., per session - - - -	1,590 00
Total per session - - - -	4,546 69

The number of children attending the public schools, and under a course of instruction - - - - - -	640
Number of orphans attending these schools - - - -	104

There is another amount of expenses, for books, paper and stationery, &c., which I am not able to give at this time, probably from one hundred to two hundred dollars per annum. Salary of superintendent of public schools, per annum, $300. There is not more than two-thirds of the children in our nation that have the opportunity of enjoying the advantages of these schools.

There is a female academy established and in operation in the northeast part of the nation, near Jesse Bushyhead's; it is in a flourishing condition, under the direction of the Baptist board of missionaries. There is also a neighborhood school in operation on bayou Menard, near Fort Gibson. This school is taught by F. Lynde, (citizen of the United States.) It will average about 30 children.

The schools established in this nation by the American board for foreign missions will be reported to the department by the Rev. S. A. Worcester. The Moravian missionaries have two schools in operation, one

of which is quite flourishing. The number of children attending these is probably about fifty. A much greater anxiety prevails among the Cherokee people for education at this time than ever has heretofore. Although, in some parts of the country, there is but little desire expressed, there are other portions very anxious for the establishment of schools; and there are, at this time, more applications for schools than the state of our funds will permit, upon the basis of the yearly annuity. Comparing the state of education now with what it was when the Cherokees emigrated to this country, in 1839, there is evidently a very great advance. The prospects of our schools, at this time, are very flattering. The branches that are taught, as yet, are spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, and history. Some of the schools will soon be prepared for the introduction of higher branches.

My annual report to the national council this fall will show the exact number of children that are attending these schools, male and female, and the expenditures of each school, which I am not able to give at this time.

Hoping that the foregoing will be satisfactory for the present, I with pleasure submit it.

Yours, most obediently,

DAVID CARTER,
Superintendent Public Schools.

P. S. The calculation of the expenses of the schools is made upon the basis of the amount allowed by law for each school; but when the exact amount is returned to me by the directors of the schools, it frequently falls a little short of the amount allowed.

D. CARTER.

(42.)

PARK HILL, *July* 17, 1844.

SIR: In reply to your letter (circular) of the 6th instant, permit me to say—:

1. In regard to the church at this station, no important change has taken place since my letter to Governor Butler of July 3, 1843. The number of Cherokee members then on the list was 22, and the present number is 23.

2. In the letter just referred to, I stated that the Acts of the Apostles was then in press at our printing office. Including that, which was afterwards completed, the printing of Cherokee books within the year has been as follows:

							Pages.
Acts of the Apostles,	2d ed'n,	124	pages,	24to,	5,000	copies,	620,000
Gospel of Matthew,	4th "	120	"	do	5,000	"	600,000
Select Passages of Scripture,	4th "	24	"	do	5,000	"	120,000
Evils of Intoxicating Liquors - - -	2d "	24	"	do	5,000	"	120,000
Poor Sarah, - -	2d "	18	"	do	5,000	"	90,000
Almanac for 1844 - -		36	"	12mo,	1,000	"	36,000
Total in Cherokee - - -					26,000		1,586,000

In the Choctaw language we have printed—

				Pages.
Epistles of James, - -	23 pages,	24to,	1,000 copies,	23,000
Three Chapters of Revelations, -	20 "	do.	1,000 "	20,000
Choctaw Almanac, - -	24 "	12mo,	300 "	7,200
Total in Choctaw - - -			2,300	50,200
Total in both languages - - -			28,300	1,636,200

We have sold books to the amount of $135 75, and distributed many gratuitously. Those sold have been purchased "chiefly by the Cherokee Bible society," very few by individuals.

3. The school at this station has been taught somewhat less than nine months within a year past, the health of the teachers not allowing more. Sixty-one scholars have attended more or less, but some only a very few days. The average number in daily attendance, the latter part of 1843, was 15; the average since the present year commenced about 20½; and for the whole time about 18⅔. All but 5 were Cherokees. The greatest attendance was towards the last. I believe those who have been tolerably regular in attendance have made good proficiency in learning.

4. I am no longer secretary of the Cherokee temperance society. That office is now filled by the Rev. Stephen Foreman. I have access, however, to the records. It is impossible to state what number have been added to the society within a year past, on account of some lists of names having been taken in different neighborhoods, which have not been reported to the secretary, and of some lists having been made *promiscuously* of those who had and those who had not *previously* signed the pledge. The best estimate which I can make of the number added since my letter of last year is about 700. It seems evident that the cause is gaining ground. It is acknowledged on all hands, I believe, that there is much less of whiskey drinking than formerly. This, however, is not imputed *wholly* to the influence of the temperance society, but in no small part to the scarcity of money.

I believe these are the principal facts which you desire, and which will not be communicated by other persons to whom your circular has been sent.

Respectfully, yours,

S. A. WORCESTER.

M. DUVAL, Esq.

(43.)

MOUNT ZION, *August* 1, 1844.

DEAR SIR: Having no report worth forwarding is the only apology I can offer for not having answered your polite and reasonable request before. On account of ill health, I left this station with my family, and have but just returned. Last fall we left the station, houses, library, cattle, &c., entirely in the care of two full Cherokees—a single brother and his sister. And though the settlement around is composed of Cherokees, yet we find that every thing has been faithfully taken care of and kindly preserved; and though many of the families are out, or nearly out, of corn, yet they have

suffered the corn in our crib to remain unmolested, without any fastening to the door. This is not a solitary instance. We have on former occasions, both here and in the eastern country, left our houses alone, employing Cherokees to look to the creatures, as fowls, &c., about the house, and have always found every thing safe on our return. And thus, during a residence of twenty-six (nearly twenty-seven) years in the nation, we have found the Cherokees generally to be a very kind honest-hearted people.

We have a brother in the church, a full Cherokee, or nearly so, who received his education partly at a mission school of the United Brethren at Spring Place, Georgia, and partly at Cornwall, Connecticut. This young man we employed to teach our school one term, commencing the first of the year 1844. The average number of scholars I cannot now report. The church consists of about thirty members, two only having been added since my report of last year.

Mrs. Butrick and myself have travelled considerably the year past, and yet I do not recollect of having seen but one Cherokee in a state of intoxication. But what pleased us more especially was, to notice the ambition, the industry, and ingenuity of the Cherokee women in making cloth. Considering their advantages, they evidently excel in this. Many of the men, also, are industrious in raising provisions for their families. If all white men who have intercourse with them would kindly take them by the hand, and lead them in the ways of virtue, they might soon be a happy people.

Respectfully, yours,

D. S. BUTRICK.

Mr. Duval, *Acting Agent, Cherokee Nation.*

(44.)

Spring Place, *August* 1, 1844.

Dear Sir: On account of sickness and various business matters, your request was deferred; which remissness on our part we hope you will pardon. I will now proceed to give you, as accurately as possible, an account of the state and prospects of the mission of the United Brethren's church (commonly called Moravians) among the Cherokees. Let me, however, first go back a few years, in order to give you a brief historical sketch of our work.

When the Cherokees emigrated to this country, three of our missionaries, the Rev. Messrs. John R. Smith, Miles Vogler, and Mr. Ruede, followed, and, with the permission of council, commenced a station on the Barren fork, where the most of our people had settled. This place, however, proved sickly, and the missionaries, Mr. and Mrs. Vogler and Mr. Ruede, moved to Beatie's prairie in the autumn of the following year, and received the consent of council to settle there—having a prospect of a large school, and with the expectation that the members of the church would soon follow, and settle around them. But our people seemed unwilling to settle there; and it was therefore determined by our board to commence another station at the head of Spring creek, about half way between Beatie's prairie and Barren fork, (to which place, Spring creek, one family had already moved, and others were on the point of doing

the same;) and to this end, Messrs. G. Bishop and David Smith were constituted missionaries by the board, and in the autumn of 1841 despatched as a reinforcement. The request of the board to commence a school at Spring creek was laid before the then sitting council, who, however, refused to grant it. At the next session of council, (in the autumn of 1842,) a petition of our people and of many friends of the missionary cause in the nation was brought before council, and permission was at length given; whereupon, Messrs. Ruede and Bishop moved to this place, and as soon as possible commenced keeping school. As it is the desire of our board first to benefit those who have come under our influence by church membership, and afterwards others, Spring Place will become the principal station of our operations; and to this end, we are now about preparing suitable buildings. The number of baptized adults belonging to our church in the nation is 47, (3 of whom have been suspended,) viz: 20 at Spring Place, 7 at Barren fork, 1 at Beatie's prairie, and 9 dwelling at different places. About 45 baptized children are under our immediate care; besides these, however, there are a number of children and youths, baptized by our missionaries, who live scattered about in the nation. The total, therefore, of children and adults under our influence at Beatie's prairie, Spring Place, and Barren fork, is about 90. We visit Barren fork generally every four weeks; while at the two other places, divine worship is held every Sabbath. Both our schools conducted at Beatie's prairie and Spring Place are neighborhood schools, on account of the expense attending boarding schools, and our board being burdened with a heavy debt. Our school at Beatie's prairie has always been quite flourishing, numbering almost every session between 30 and 40 scholars, and sometimes above—the settlement being such a one where the value of schools is understood. The settlement around Spring Place may be termed a full Cherokee settlement, such a one, therefore, as is in most want of benefit from missionaries. In the autumn of 1842, when the school first opened, being then a new thing, there were about 40 scholars on the school list who attended within a circuit of three miles around us; but more than half soon dropped off; and it has always required great patience on the part of the teacher, on account of irregularity. The heathen portion and a great part of the Christian full Cherokees have not yet learned the value of schools, or at least are very indifferent about them, and, even if they perceive their importance, do not exercise any control over their children; so that these will not attend, unless they themselves get interested in them. Upon the whole, it is my firm belief that the children of the full Cherokees at present can be benefited only by means of boarding schools, though these have always been very burdensome to the missionaries.

The missionary work among the Cherokees seems to be improving, and meetings are better attended than formerly; and it appears that the prejudice which existed against missionaries and the whites in general is growing fainter and fainter, which I think, by a prudent policy and a parental treatment on the part of the United States Government, may finally die away.

If in future you have any need of information from us, it shall always, if it is in our power to give you any, be at your service.

Yours, with respect,

DAVID Z. SMITH.

M. Duval, Esq., *Fort Gibson.*

(45.)

Extract from the report of P. M. Butler, Indian agent.

A general desire for the advantages of education is at present singularly characteristic of these people. The schools, as will be seen in detail, are well supported and zealously attended. In each of the eight districts, which compose the nation, there are several public schools; in some two, in others three. They are, in all, eighteen in number, of which the aggregate expense, per session of twenty-two weeks, is $4,546 69, besides the salary of a superintendent of public schools, $300, and $200, the estimate cost of books and stationery. The whole of this expense is defrayed out of the annuities received from the United States. The number of children attending these schools is about six hundred and forty; of these, at present, one hundred and four are orphans, whose maintenance and education cost per session $1,590. Of the eighteen teachers, sixteen are white men, (three of them Cherokee citizens by marriage,) and two native Cherokees; their salaries, per session, average $162 26 each. The branches at present taught are, spelling, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, and history. There is also in progress of establishment a school at Talequah, the seat of Government, intended to afford instruction in the higher branches of liberal education. The building is under contract, and the school is expected to be organized during the ensuing winter. Appended is a tabular statement of these schools, with the expenses of each, the number of scholars, and the names of the teachers and their salaries. Besides these, which are all in a healthy and most flourishing condition, there are others in the nation, supported by individual contributions, giving further evidence of the increasing desire and determination of the people to educate their children. The school at Dwight mission, under the superintendence of Mr. Jacob Hitchcock, has been taught by Mr. and Mrs. Day. The whole number of scholars is fifty-two; about forty are regular attendants; about forty children have been boarded in the mission family. The studies pursued are, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, modern and ancient history, natural philosophy, and one lesson a week in moral science. The church at this station contains about forty members; meetings are held every Sabbath, and a Sabbath school has been established, which is attended by all the regular day scholars, and by some others. The school at Park Hill, in charge of the Rev. Samuel A. Worcester, has been open something less than nine months during the past year; the average number of scholars in regular attendance during the latter part of 1843 was fifteen; the average since the commencement of the present year, twenty-one; and for the whole time, about nineteen—all but five, Cherokees. The number of Cherokee members of the church at this station is twenty-three. At this station during the last year there have been published, besides the Acts of the Apostles, in press at time of the last report, several books in the Cherokee language, some of the second and fourth editions; the whole number of copies printed was twenty-six thousand, containing 1,642,000 pages, 24mo, though most of the books sold have been purchased by the Cherokee Bible society, and many have been gratuitously distributed. At the Fairfield mission, under the charge of Dr. E. Butler, there has been no change of any importance since the last annual report. A charitable society has been formed there, a com-

mittee of which select, and cause to be printed and gratutiously distributed, sermons in the English and Cherokee languages. The school at Mount Zion, under the care of the Rev. D. S. Butrick, has been taught, during the last term, by a Cherokee educated at Spring Place, Georgia. It is reported to be in a flourishing condition; the number of scholars has not been ascertained. Of the two under the direction of the Moravian missionaries, one is situated at Beatie's prairie, under the charge of Mr. and Mrs. Vogler; the average number of scholars is thirty or forty per session. The other, at Spring Place, in charge of Mr. and Mrs. Bishop, and Mr. David Z. Smith, numbers about twenty scholars. They are both neighborhood schools. The whole number of adults and children at the stations, Beatie's prairie, Spring Place, and Barren fork, under the influence of these missionaries, is about ninety. The Baptist mission stationed at Cherokee have a school for boys and girls, which is in a very prosperous state; the number of scholars has not been reported. The Rev. G. Jones is the principal, assisted by Mr. J. T. Frye, W. P. Upham, Miss S. H. Hibbard, and H. Upham. The number of communicants belonging to this church, in the nation, is believed to be about eight hundred. The Methodist association have about thirteen hundred communicants in the nation, ten local preachers, nine exhorters, thirteen class leaders, and about six hundred communicants, among the upper or mountain Cherokees; and six preachers, six exhorters, and about seven hundred members, among the lower Cherokees. There is a neighborhood school under the direction of F. Lynde (a citizen of the United States) on bayou Menard, near Fort Gibson, comprising about forty scholars. The missionary work among the Cherokees seems to prosper. The churches are better attended than formerly, and a greater interest is manifested in their services. My observation of these societies induces me to believe that they have had, and still have, the happy effect of making the Cherokees think, with a quiet, meek, and becoming spirit, scrupulously abstaining from all participation in local or agitating questions. They exercise a most powerful moral influence over the people. Their especial usefulness, however, next to the inestimable value of their religious instruction, has consisted in the preparation of competent native teachers, both male and female. The Indians, habitually jealous of the white man, will much more readily observe the precept and follow the example of one of his own race and of his own color. This leads me to remark the serious loss sustained by the lamented death of the Rev. Jesse Busyhead, who occupied that middle ground between the Cherokees and the whites, which rendered his intervention most important and influential in all their intercourse, and who exercised his influence in a manner so uniformly beneficial, that we may not soon find another competent to supply his place.

(46.)

NEOSHO SUB-AGENCY, *October* 2, 1844.

HONORED SIR: In communicating to you the name given by the Quapaw chiefs to their recently erected school house, I will assure you that I have never performed a more pleasant duty since my connexion with the Indian department. I have to inform you, that they have given it the name of the Crawford seminary, in commemoration of you and your valu-

able services as the head of the Indian department. My most fervent hopes and anxious desires are for the advancement and prosperity of this school. I verily believe that the opening of this school will shed a new era of light upon the dark and semi-barbarous people in this region of the world. The funds, it is true, due by the Government for its support are inadequate to extensive operations; but when the philanthropist comes to learn the great value of this point for missionary operations, being about equi-distant from the Kanzas mission north and that at Fort Coffee south, and the fact that there are at least among the neighboring tribes, judging from the proportion of children among the Quapaws, nine hundred Indian children, within one hundred and fifty miles of this place, of the proper size to be attending school, who are now growing up in darkness and barbarism, it is hoped that an effort will be made which, with the permission of the Government, must eventually succeed.

* * * * * * * *

With great respect, &c.,

B. B. R. BARKER.

Hon. T. Hartley Crawford,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(47.)

Fairfield, *July* 30, 1844.

Sir: Agreeably to your request of the 6th instant, I would say that there has been no essential change at this mission station since the report of last year, to which I would refer you.

We have, however, during the last year, collected at this place, for the Cherokee Bible Society, $43 62½; and have also a charitable society, which has on hand about $35. This society has appointed a committee, whose duty it is to select and cause to be printed a sermon in the English and Cherokee languages, at the expense of the society, and circulated gratuitously.

Yours, respectfully,
ELIZUR BUTLER.

Governor P. M. Butler.

(48.)

Dwight Mission, *July* 17, 1844.

Sir: Your circular of July 6th was duly received. A pressure of business is my apology for not answering it earlier. In answer to your inquiry, I would say that there has been no change in the mission family during the last year. The family is composed of six individuals, viz: myself and Mrs. Hitchcock, Mr. and Mrs. Day, Miss Ellen Stetson, and Miss Hannah Moore. The school has been taught by Mr. and Mrs. Day; the whole number of scholars is fifty-two; about forty regular scholars. About forty children have been boarded in the mission family. The various studies that have been taught are, reading, writing, arithmetic, geography, English grammar, modern and ancient history, natural philosophy, and one lesson

a week on moral science. The church contains about forty members; one addition and one death the past year.

An auxiliary bible society was formed in this district last summer, which enrols nearly sixty members. More than $30 were collected and paid over to the parent society. Meetings have been held regularly on the Sabbath; and a regular Sabbath school has been kept, embracing all the day scholars, and occasionally some others. Nothing more occurs to my mind, worthy of note.

Yours, respectfully,
JACOB HITCHCOCK, *Superintendent.*

M. DUVAL, Esq.

(49.)

PARK HILL, *August* 8, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I regret very much that the materials in my possession for furnishing you a report respecting the progress of temperance in the nation are so scanty. Presuming, however, that you have some data upon which to found your report, I cheerfully send you the little information I have with regard to the operations of our society since November, 1843, when it held its last annual meeting. I presume you are aware that the Cherokee temperance society was organized in 1836. It is a national society, and the calculation is, to have one or more auxiliary societies in each of the several districts; but few, however, as yet, have been formed. At the last-mentioned meeting, the whole number of signers to the pledge amounted to 2,073. Since that time, a number of very interesting temperance meetings have been held in different parts of the nation, attended with encouraging success, and about 400 names have been added to the list. The number, I have no doubt, is greater; but these are all that have been reported to me. This will swell the whole number of names to 2,473. Of these, probably about 2,000 are Cherokees, and the remainder either white or black people.

I am, sir, your obedient servant,
STEPHEN FOREMAN,
Sec. Cherokee Temperance Society.

Mr. M. DUVAL.

(50.)

MISSION HOUSE,
Sault Ste. Marie, August 22, 1844.

SIR: In presenting this sixteenth annual report of our mission, it becomes us, with humble and devout gratitude, to acknowledge the goodness of that great and glorious Being who has been the preserver of our lives and the author and bestower of all our mercies.

Through his paternal care, the lives of the mission family, and all specially connected with the mission, have been preserved, and most of us have enjoyed sufficient health to enable us, with a steady hand, to prosecute our labors.

The missionaries connected with this mission are, myself and wife, the Rev. James D. Cameron, Miss Harriet H. Morse, and Shegeed, a native assistant.

A well-regulated school has been taught through the year, with only two weeks' interruption, occasioned by the sickness of the teacher. We have our usual vacations of one week at the close of each quarter of the year; and we have enrolled on our school list, for each successive quarter of the year past, from 52 to 68 pupils, nearly equally divided as to sex. In progress, they are at various stages—from the alphabet to philosophy and botany. In Colburn's Intellectual Arithmetic we have had 8, in Adams's New Arithmetic 7, in English grammar 2, in geography 7, in United States history 6, in philosophy 3, in botany 1. In the last-named branch, however, there has been but merely a beginning, owing to the sickness of the teacher.

The other pupils have given their attention to writing, reading, spelling, &c.

We have ten boarding scholars, nine of whom are supported wholly at the expense of the mission, and the other in part. Eleven have been supported a portion of the time; and that number was reported at our last semi-annual report to the board. At another period of the year, we have had twelve; but ten is our present number. The sum of $1,750 has been received by us, and placed to the credit of the treasurer of our board, together with four boxes of goods, the specific value of which was not named, (as but one contained an invoice,) but probably would have been estimated at about $200.

Of this amount, $681 13 has been applied to missionary purposes the present year, including the pay of interpreter, native assistant, travelling expenses, and amount paid for building materials.

Four hundred and fifty dollars of it has been paid to religious teachers, $72 22 for interpreting, $8 91 for travelling expenses in visiting the Indians at their winter locations, and $150 for the above-named building materials.

One thousand and sixty-eight dollars and eighty-seven cents, together with the goods the boxes contained, has been applied to the school department the current year; $50 of which has been paid to the assistant teacher for services rendered. The other $1,018 87, with a part of the goods, has been expended by the superintendent for the support of the boarding school, including himself and family, the board of the assistant teacher, and other necessary expenses of the establishment. The other portion of the goods is on hand.

A Sabbath school has also been steadily kept up through the year, in which from 15 to 30 children have received instruction in that department. The object of it has been to give general religious and bible instruction, uncontaminated with sectarian prejudices.

Regular Christian worship also has been steadily maintained by the missionaries, which we trust has exerted an important influence in restraining the natives from the use of intoxicating liquor and other concomitant vices, and promoting in them habits of sobriety, seriousness, and consequent industry. The preaching of the word (we humbly hope) has also been owned and blessed by the Supreme Lawgiver to the spiritual benefit of some souls. Four natives, and a daughter of the missionary, have obtained a hope of pardoning mercy through the atoning blood of the great Redeemer, and have received Christian baptism on a profession of their

faith in him; and the other members of the church have maintained their Christian profession, and hold on their way.

Most of the Indians who come under my labors, who have pledged themselves to habits of temperance, prove faithful to their pledge. Some, through the strength of temptation and native propensity, have fallen into the snare; but most of those who have been ensnared have, when a suitable opportunity offered, confessed their fault, and renewed their pledge; and some whose habits were most inveterate at our first commencement with them, have apparently gained a decided victory over them by the steady persevering course we have pursued with them.

We trust that a new era has now commenced with them. As the line has been drawn by the two Governments, our own Indians have remained at home, and a very respectable portion of them, instead of visiting the British agency as formerly, have, like men of enterprise, gone into the fishing business, and barreled up fish for market. The number of barrels they have taken I am not now able to report, as I have not yet visited them at their fishing location.

In relation to the productions of our farm, I may add, we have between seven and eight acres of grain on the ground, (rye and oats,) and rising of one acre of potatoes; all of which now look well for this country, and, should we be favored with suitable weather for harvesting, and be preserved from frost, bid fair for a good yield. In addition to this, we have a moderate supply of garden vegetables.

In relation to stock, we have eight head of horned cattle—3 oxen, 2 cows, and 1 heifer, and two smaller cattle; and 4 swine, 3 of which are spring shoats.

Although this cannot be said to be a good farming country, yet it is necessary to do something at the business at a boarding institution like this, to train the boys to business and habits of industry. This is one branch of instruction given to them, and in it they have generally made tolerably good proficiency. The girls are also instructed in all the common business of housekeeping, such as is calculated to qualify them for industrious, profitable wives, and discreet and respectable mothers.

With sentiments of respect and esteem, I am, sir, your obedient servant,

A. BINGHAM,
Sup. Baptist Mission.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,
Sub-Agent Ind. Dep., Sault Ste. Marie.

(51.)

Annual report showing the state of the missions and schools in the Michigan conference of the Methodist Episcopal church among the Ojibowa Indians.

Sault St. Marie.—At this station there are 66 members of the church, two of whom are white; the rest Indians. Our fences have been put in excellent repair, the crops all secured, which, including oats, potatoes, turnips, &c., promise a good harvest. We have about fifty acres in one field cultivated by the missionaries and the Indians, each having a piece by him-

self. There is also a pasture field, containing about 150 acres, a part of which is yet covered with timber, but it yields an abundance of feed for all the stock we now have, or are likely soon to possess.

There are now in the hands of the missionary two oxen, one cow, and three calves, together with the necessary tools for the cultivation of the soil. There are four head of cattle also owned by individual Indians.

During the year we have built a new bakehouse for the use of the mission, and are now finishing our new frame school house, 20 by 30 feet on the ground, and shall have it ready for use this winter. It is estimated that we have six tons of hay, 50 bushels of oats, 300 bushels of potatoes, and 500 bushels of turnips, at this station, (Sault St. Marie.)

Kewawenon.—At this station there are 59 members of the church, seven of whom are white; the rest Indians. The crops here look remarkably well, and there is every prospect of a good supply of vegetables, which will be a great benefit to those who are here employed in the mission field. At this station are two oxen, one cow, one bull, and the ordinary tools for cultivating the soil. There are also a number of cattle belonging to the Indians themselves.

Fond du Lac and Sandy Lake.—As these two stations were but recently placed under my charge, I am not able to speak definitely concerning them, but, from all the information I have received from those laboring there, have reason to believe that, with determination and perseverance, good will be accomplished. We think the schools have in general been well conducted, and that the scholars have made good progress in their studies; and though, in common with others, we have our trials and discouragements, both in educational and missionary operations, (the greatest of which generally grow out of the diabolical whiskey trade,) yet we are not in the least disposed to give ground to the enemy, but, in the strength of the Lord, are determined to persevere in the work assigned us until others are found who are better qualified to engage in the labor of carrying forward the benevolent purposes of the Government and the church. May the Divine Being prosper us in all our efforts, and hasten the day when knowledge shall cover the earth, and his praise be sung in every language and dialect of the babbling earth.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

W. H. BROCKWAY,

Superintendent of Missions in the Michigan Conference.

JAMES ORD, Esq.,

Indian Sub-Agent, Sault St. Marie.

(52.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *August* 30, 1844.

SIR: I send, herewith, the annual report of the school at this place, with a separate list of the names and ages of the scholars. On a review of our labors for this people the past year, we feel increasing encouragement that they may be, by perseverance, advanced to the condition of a civilized and christian community. In those who have given attention to instruction, a gradual advance in intelligence and good habits is manifest; and those who have been indifferent, or opposed to instruction, seeing the advantages

which civilization and instruction bring, are, one after another, forsaking their degrading habits, and adopting those of civilized life.

The grounds of our encouragement are the following: First. The number that give attention to instruction on the Sabbath is increasing. Meetings have been uniformly well attended during the past year, and the truths of the gospel have made a salutary impression on many minds. In this fact we find the strongest encouragement; for, if they can be made to understand, and feel, and act, in accordance with the principles of the word of God, they will become sober, honest, and industrious, and rise from degradation and ignorance to happiness and intelligence. Secondly. There has been a larger and more regular attendance on the school than in any former year. During the winter there was an attendance of from fifteen to twenty-five; average about twenty. This summer the attendance has been from thirty-five to fifty-five; the average has been about forty. Thirdly. The number of families that are preparing permanent and comfortable habitations is yearly increasing. A much larger number have remained here this summer, attending to their business, than in any former year. Fourthly. They are becoming more industrious since they received the additional saws from the department; they have kept them in almost constant use, in sawing boards for their buildings. They learn to work the saw with great readiness. A number of new buildings have been put up this summer. The buildings they put up each year are more substantial, more comfortable, and built with more care and neatness. Instead of a ground floor and bark roof, they now saw boards and make shingles, often vieing with each other who shall have the best house, evincing an increased interest in their future welfare. They have also much enlarged their fields, and increased their plantings. Besides this, a number, at the head of whom was the chief Ahgosa, under the direction of the Messrs. Campbells, have performed much labor in getting the materials and building a large boat, just now completed. It will be of great service to them and the department.

It would give me great pleasure to state, in conclusion, that intemperance is banished from their midst, but that I cannot say. A trader visited their encampment last spring, and left a quantity of liquor among some lodges, a few miles from here, and at other places. The consequence was, a drinking frolic for several days. Since then, two Indians visited the place, having liquor, and some few united in drinking. In one of these instances it was brought to the village, and a small number degraded themselves and disturbed the peace of the settlement by drinking. This is the first time, for a long season, that any liquor has been brought into the village, and it would seem to show a retrograde movement. This, I think, is not the case, but, on the contrary, the temperance cause is gaining ground among them. Those who were engaged in these revels have manifested a deep feeling of shame and regret. They begin to see, in the example of those who do not drink, that character and happiness can only be secured by sobriety, and that intemperance entails on them and their children poverty, and shame, and disease.

We held a temperance meeting with them a few weeks since, when the consequences to themselves and children were urged on their consideration, and they were left to ponder them. After a few days, one after another came, with more feeling and apparent sincerity than ever before manifested, and requested to have their names again put on the temperance list.

Ninety names have been added to the list. How faithful they will be, time will determine; they will soon be tried. That all will remain firm, we have no expectation; but some we hope will, from year to year, be rescued. Some, who feared their power to withstand the temptation if they attended the payment, have determined to remain here. They begin to see that the way for them to become sober men is not by the white people making laws forbidding its sale, but by their refusing to buy and drink.

The corn looks very fine, and their crops will be much larger than in former years. Reports of agricultural and mechanical operations you will of course receive from the proper persons. I would only say, that the men in the department have, I believe, been faithful in the discharge of their duties.

Yours, with great respect,

P. DOUGHERTY, *Missionary.*

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Michigan.

(53.)

OTTOWA COLONY, *August* 30, 1844.

SIR: I beg leave to submit to you the following items relating to the civilization and education of the natives at this station. There has been no change in regard to the school since my last annual report. It has been in operation during a considerable part of the winter, spring, and summer—in all, about twenty-six weeks. The number who have received instruction is thirty-two, sixteen of whom are children of the natives. They have pursued the usual elementary studies; and some of the youth appear to take a lively interest in their studies, and attend as constantly as do some of the white children from the neighborhood, while we have been discouraged with others, on account of their inattention and the little apparent interest felt by them and their parents.

I have one scholar by the name of Mash-coh, to whose case I would call your particular attention. He made a profession of religion some four years since, and maintained it by a consistent life of devotion. His mind has been exercised on the subject of preaching to his countrymen; and he has made extensive excursions to disclose the truths of the gospel, and with some success. His undertaking led him to perceive his need of the knowledge of letters to qualify him for the ministry; consequently, he became determined to attend school, though he is rising forty years of age, and has a family dependent upon him for support. To obtain an education, he is willing to make any sacrifice that would be consistent with duty. He is anxious to attend here until the ensuing spring, and then pursue his studies at the Hamilton Theological Institution, New York, provided he could receive patronage from the United States Government. It will be recollected that $400 was set apart out of the Ottowa and Chippewa education fund, about five years since, for the support of Joseph Elliot, of this place, through the influence of your predecessor, H. R. Colcraft, Esq. Could this appropriation be transferred, or the same amount applied, it would further the object of education among this tribe.

Our resolution of bringing into operation a system of domestic instruction

for the education of the native women, as mentioned in my last report, continues to be cherished. The building is now reared, and will be completed in a few weeks. When the building is in readiness, an instructress will be employed to impart instruction to the women in spinning, weaving, needlework, and all branches of housewifery. Some time will be devoted each day for elementary instruction. Should we succeed in promoting and elevating the character of the females, we anticipate immediate benefit to result from it in favor of education. Hitherto, the females have made no change in their mode and habits of life. They pursue the same avocations, and depend upon the same resources as they ever have done—namely, assist in hoeing in the field, dress the skins from the hunt, make their moccasins and garments; also, employ much of their time in making mats from rushes and bark bags, &c. This variety enumerated, (and I should add their cooking, rearing and taking care of their offspring,) it would seem they had abundance of labor, which is true with those who will employ their time. Civilization and Christianity would teach them to renounce the most part enumerated. We hope soon to introduce a change in the management of domestic industry among the females.

We hope to receive a visit from you as early as next spring, to give encouragement to our efforts, and that we may receive your advice and counsel. The natives have purchased, the past season, two yoke of oxen, with which and their horses, they succeeded in preparing their ground for seed. Their crops now look encouraging. There has no incident occurred in the settlement, or in their intercourse with the whites, to occasion any dissatisfaction, but the utmost harmony has prevailed.

There have been but few deaths, and mostly among children. Our population is rising 130.

Religious state of our affairs.—The whole community have renounced heathen superstitions. No sacred rite formerly practised by them is continued. All unite in visiting the house of God on his day of rest, and listen with apparent interest to the truths of the gospel. Twenty-five adults are connected with the church. I have three week-day meetings, one of which is set apart for free conversation on religious subjects. The members of the church manifest a desire to promote the welfare of their countrymen; and many are now absent to another station for a few days, to co-operate with them in promoting piety and mutual friendship.

The expenditures of this mission the past year have been $509 08—the receipts $507 99. The amount received from the United States Government through the Baptist board for foreign missions has been $350.

Respectfully, &c.

L. SLATER, *Teacher.*

ROBERT STUART, Esq.

(54.)

DETROIT, *September* 28, 1844.

DEAR SIR: I have the honor, herewith, to enclose to you the annual report for this year (1843–'44) of the Indian schools in the mission under my superintendency.

The improvement of the scholars in our schools is in general satisfactory

and encouraging. The proficiency of those who have diligently attended is far above expectation; even some of the new beginners commenced reading fluently within two months' attendance at school. However, the progress of many is not so satisfactory, on account of their irregular attendance and too many distracting avocations, which render it sometimes very unpleasant and discouraging to the teacher.

The Ottowa Indians of the Catholic mission of Arbre Croche and its filials were in former times the fiercest savages, as well as the most cruel warriors; but at present we can say that they are the most peaceable and the most civilized among the Indians within the State and territory of Michigan. Acting under the direction of Catholic missionaries for thirteen years, they have made such progress in religious education and civilization that they now live peaceably, and enjoy most of the comforts of life in their several villages at the Little Traverse bay, the Cross, Middletown, Manistic, and Cheboygan. They practise their religion well; they are diligent and industrious; they cultivate the land to such an extent, that every year they can afford to sell much of their produce in the town of Mackinac, and to vessels with which they have occasional intercourse. Nearly all know how to read, and many are able to write also. Some of them are good carpenters, and others are expert in various kinds of work. These Indians have until now so well adapted themselves to civilization, and shown a willingness to follow every laudable occupation, that they merit all the protection and favor of the Government.

With much respect, I am your obedient servant,

PETER P. LEFEVRE, *B. C. A. D.*

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Michigan.

(55.)

OLD WING MISSION, *August* 23, 1844.

DEAR SIR: Agreeably to your request, I now report to you the condition of our mission school, &c., and the progress of the Indians during the past year. But, first of all, I acknowledge, with much gratitude, the reception of your letter of the 25th of June, in which you communicated the intelligence that I am to receive Government aid from the first of last January, as also Mary Ann Willard, who has interpreted for me these three years past, but is now at Grand Haven. The above aid will obviate one great difficulty—the embarrassment we have felt for the want of a competent or even a comfortable support.

The progress of the Indians the past year has, in respect to civilization, been indeed flattering; in their general manners and moral conduct, they have made great advances. The cause of temperance has done great things; not an Indian, to my knowledge, has been intoxicated in the colony for nearly two years. The benefit may be seen in the increase of social happiness, and the general good order which prevails among us; and it is remarked in our nearest white settlement, that they appear as well when away from home as American citizens, and that their improvement in this respect is beyond any thing of the kind before witnessed. There has been considerable sickness among them the past year, and is at this present

time. There have also been several deaths; one of our best men is gone. We have also been called to part with two children. Medicine is very much needed; and it might be well if the Government could appropriate a small fund annually for the purchase of medicines. I could, at least in all ordinary cases, administer it with advantage. Their farming operations have advanced considerably since my last report. Several have enlarged their fields; others, who had none before, have made considerable choppings, and will be ready to put in crops next spring. Several families have the productions of last year, sufficient to serve them until another harvest; others have almost suffered from want. They have a considerable amount of crops on the ground, but the wet season will injure some of them very much. Some fields could not be planted, or in part only, because they were so wet, but generally the crops look well; they consist of corn, potatoes, beans, &c. One family have, I judge, above ten acres of heavy corn. The farmer, F. G. Mills, (who arrived here, with his family, the 1st day of August,) did, in the first place, in company with the Indians, cut hay for the oxen, &c., next winter; since then, he has been engaged with them in logging. They appear much pleased with him, and I have reason to hope good success will attend his appointment. Some families intend to put in crops of wheat this fall or next spring. Two hewed log houses have been laid up this season on their farms; they expect to finish them this fall. Several other families expect to build this fall; some have their timber nearly ready to lay up; they have also some hogs, of which they intend to make pork. All these things promise for them more comfortable and happy times than they have ever enjoyed.

The school has been kept as much of the time as scholars could be obtained to attend; this has been but a small portion of the year. It was opened in December, and continued until they moved to their sugar camps; since sugaring, their families have lived most of the time at the landing on Black lake, four miles from the school house. They say it is too far to go to school, and their disposition to be on the water in warm weather is so strong that they appear to prefer not to enjoy the benefit of the school than to abandon that old habit, though they often express the strongest desire to have their children educated. I am fully convinced that other influences are combined with their old habit, to perpetuate this evil. Interested, selfish individuals, whose only aim appears to be to prevent the good which others are striving to effect, have much to do with our affairs; but we have good reason to hope that the above evils will be gradually removed, not because the vile intruders will remit their efforts, but because the Indians feel the importance of a different course, and promise to do better.

The number of scholars enrolled last winter was 33—21 of whom were males, and 12 were females; their ages are from 4 to 30 years. They are taught spelling, reading, writing, intellectual arithmetic, &c., and are also exercised in singing once or twice every day. They advance well while in school. Several of the young men write a very fair hand. I teach them in the English language—use the Elementary and Union spelling and Union reading books. Our meetings have the same evils to contend with in the summer that oppose the school, though not to the same extent; through the winter they were generally well attended, often with deep interest; and we have reason to believe that the truths of the Gospel have made deep and lasting effects on the hearts of a few of this benighted people. In

view of the whole, we have strong hopes that great good will yet be the result of our labors here.

Your obedient and humble servant,

GEORGE A. SMITH.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

(56.)

OLD WING, *April* 30, 1844.

SIR: It is with feelings of disappointment that I report so little advancement during the present quarter. I am, at times, almost discouraged; then, again, hope brightens, and I feel that they may yet become all that I can wish or expect they might be. They have been mostly occupied in preparing for and making sugar this quarter. A little chopping has been done. The school continued till past the middle of February, and from Mr. Smith I learn they have made better progress during the present winter than at any former time. Your communications of January 3d and 13th were received by them as bearing strongly against their darling project. What will be the ultimate result it is difficult to determine. I hope they will see their true interest, and act in such a manner as to secure it, by locating permanently on their farms. Nothing has been done to their village, I believe, since the reception of your last letter. The public property is the same as heretofore, except a sled worth five dollars. Of the things forwarded to Grand river, I brought the broad axe, adze, a shave, augers, chisels, and one hoe; the others I expect to get on the opening of navigation.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient servant,

O. D. GOODRICH.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

(57.)

OCTOBER 7, 1844.

SIR: I beg leave to present to you a brief statement of the condition of the Ottowa Indians under my care. The Rev. Mr. Selkrig continues to discharge the duties of missionary and teacher. In his report to you last year he stated that his accounts were in an unsettled state, and intimated that part of his salary remained unpaid. He has already furnished you with a correction of his error, as his accounts and salary were fully paid up to September last. The sum drawn from the Government in January last met these accounts; and, since that period, I have not received any money from the Government, as receipts have not been furnished me by the missionary, in accordance with the order issued by the superintendent of Indian affairs. I enclose the report of the missionary, made to me in May last. (*Please to connect it with this report.*)

I trust that the good already effected by the blessing of God on the labor

of the missionary is but an earnest of what will be done in the future. The Indians appear to be pleased and satisfied with their condition. The greatest anxiety is manifest in reference to the education of their children. As far as possible, every exertion will be made to meet their wishes and carry out the views of the Government.

Respectfully, yours, &c.,
SAMUEL A. McCOSKRY,
Bishop of Michigan.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

Griswold Episcopal mission to the Ottowas—Rev. James Selkrig, missionary.

Still at Griswold, and more warmly engaged in missionary labor among the people of my charge than ever. Five years of hard toil in the deep forests of Michigan have passed away since I commenced preaching the gospel to the Indians. After many a hard-fought battle between sin, the world, and the devil, God has given us the victory. Our effort has been greatly blessed of the Lord. He has fulfilled his promise. He has given many of these heathen to his Son for his inheritance. There is enough in the character and condition of our American Indians, if duly considered, to call out the sympathies of those who love God and the salvation of souls. Our church has done nobly in the cause of missions. Our missionaries have spread their wings for China, Africa, Greece, and Constantinople; but how little in comparison has been done for the red man, to whom God gave the soil on which we subsist. Let him have the gospel in its awakening and comforting tones, and it will not prove an uncertain sound. But there must be no faint-heartedness in the work. I feel to say, "who is sufficient for these things?" Almost numberless discouragements are thrown in our way, and it requires a martyr-like spirit to conquer the difficulties of bringing the Indian to a moderate degree of civilization and religion; yet God has wrought these things for us. Although I do not wish to tax your patience by a lengthy report, yet I consider a missionary to the Indians has a stronger claim to your forbearance than those who are sent to their own nation, especially as it has been so often repeated, that nothing can be done for this people, to restore them to that state of society which is so desirable to promote the happiness of our fellow kind. Look at us in our commencement—alone in a desolate shanty, shivering with the ague over a hot fire in the month of June. Look at the people of our charge—a most degraded company of savages, drunken even to madness and murder. Look at them now—zealously engaged in prayer meeting almost every evening in the week, regular in their attendance at church on Sunday, engaged in the devotions of God's children, repeating the general confession, the Lord's prayer, the creed, and the ten commandments, in their own language.

Eighteen have been hopefully the subjects of converting grace the last year, and have been baptized, and sixteen were confirmed at your last visitation—improving in industry, and strict to send their children to school. Temperance is now the order of the day. Can any thing be more delight-

ful than such a change, and are we not greatly encouraged to continue our efforts among them? Be assured, right reverend sir, that your missionary will spare no toil, even bearing the heat and burden of the day, to promote the great and benevolent enterprise of bringing these natives of our beloved Republic to civilization and to the foot of the cross.

Therefore, God willing, I purpose to take the dwelling house, and convert it into a church. I have made an estimate of the cost, and find it only $300. I want a small church organ and a good-sized bell. The Indian language is well calculated for the chants, and these we ought to have, for the Indians have not as yet been able to see the order and beauty of an Episcopal sanctuary. Now, if you can do no more, send us the bell and organ, and I will fit up the church with my own hands.

Marriages - - - - - - - -	3
Baptisms—adults 18, infants 6 - - - - -	24
Burials—adult 1, infants 3 - - - - - -	4
Confirmations - - - - - - -	16

A Sunday school has been taught through the summer, of from forty to fifty scholars. The day school has opened with eighteen scholars, and regular attendance. The progress of the scholars has been very fair. The school is opened and closed with prayer.

(58.)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, BURLINGTON, IOWA,
September 27, 1844.

SIR: The recent appointment of Mr. McGregor to the Indian subagency for the Winnebagoes, and the necessity of his going to St. Louis since he entered upon the duties of his office, to obtain money to pay the annuity of the tribe for the present year, render it more than probable that he will not be able to make his annual report in time to enable me to avail myself of any information he may have to communicate; and, having received the reports of Captain Beach of the Sac and Fox agency, and Colonel Bruce of the Sioux agency, I beg leave, respectfully, to submit this my annual report, in obedience to the regulations of the department.

Since my report of the 27th September, 1843, no very material change has taken place in the situation of any of the Indian tribes within this superintendency.

The Sacs and Foxes have manifested no discontent in change of residence, though a small band of Foxes returned last winter to their old village on the Iowa river, and became so troublesome to the white inhabitants on the Iowa and Cedar, that it was found necessary to compel them to return within their proper boundary by a military force from Fort Des Moines. Since that time, no complaint against them has reached me. Small parties of them have recently visited the Winnebagoes, and some have been to the Missouri river, probably to visit the Missouri Sacs. I regret their visit to the Winnebagoes, whose restless and turbulent disposition makes them unsafe associates for their more orderly neighbors. I directed their intercourse to be looked to, but could not learn that there

was any thing in it which indicated a mischievous combination or hostile intention.

I had hoped that the removal of the Sacs and Foxes to a much greater distance from the boundary than they were before the treaty of October, 1842, would to some extent have protected them from the frequent intercourse with the unprincipled and murderous wretches who constantly hovered about them, pandering to their unconquerable fondness for intoxicating liquors, and poisoning them by first diluting that which they sell them, and then rendering it pungent by the infusion of pepper and deleterious drugs. But that hope has been totally disappointed. The cupidity of these traders in poison has overreached the obstacles of distance, and increased danger of detection, and their victims are as abundantly supplied with this destructive beverage as when they resided within two hours' ride of the boundary. The idea of deterring these wretches from destroying the Indians, by the infliction of pecuniary penalties, and the forfeiture of their liquors, is fallacious. If Congress would provide for the summary infliction of corporeal punishment upon them, it would, to a great extent, deter them from entering the Indian country in pursuit of their infamous traffic. And why, I would ask, should the Government hesitate to punish them in the most exemplary manner? The destruction of human life which they cause has no parallel in the history of crime. They do not only poison this wretched race, but they first render them mad, and cause them to commit numerous crimes, thereby putting it out of the power of the Government, aided by the philanthropy of individuals, to take even a single successful step towards the improvement of their moral or physical condition. Of the correctness of this view, the confederated tribe of Sacs and Foxes affords conclusive evidence. They are a brave and warlike people, and, comparatively, honest and intelligent; yet they have heretofore obstinately resisted every effort to induce them to build houses, encourage or permit the establishment of schools or missionaries among them. Some of their chiefs are men of a very high order of intellect; and yet they are, without an exception, I believe, inveterate sots. Their removal, last year, to the west of the temporary boundary established by the treaty of October, 1842, was delayed by the heavy rains and bad roads until it was too late to prepare ground and plant the little corn and vegetables which their women usually cultivate, and they were thrown upon the fund fortunately reserved by the provisions of the treaty of 1842 for such contingencies. These people will, I think, with few exceptions, cheerfully remove from the country they have ceded to the Government, when the time arrives at which they have agreed to do so.

The Winnebagoes remain in the degraded and discontented condition which has marked their character and conduct for some years past. A portion of them were in the habit of returning to the country east of the Mississippi, from which they came, and were becoming extremely troublesome and dangerous to the white population. Others, in disregard of their express treaty stipulations, and the repeated and earnest remonstrations of the officers of Government, persisted in residing near the Mississippi, at such a distance from their agency as to render it impracticable for their agent to observe their conduct. These, in the course of the last autumn and winter and the spring of the present year, have been brought within their proper boundary, by the indefatigable and judicious exertions of Captain Sumner, of the first regiment of dragoons. The degraded character of this tribe,

and the occasional outrages and murders committed by them, render it very important to remove them to some position less approximate to the settlements of white people. If the effort now making by the Government to prevail on them to remove should fail, it will probably have to be followed, ere long, by their forcible expulsion from the neutral ground; and I have had the honor, heretofore, to recommend to the department to designate or obtain a suitable position for them, and remove their sub-agency to it, and compel them to follow it; and in the event of failure, to treat with them this fall, I would again respectfully recommend that course, as the only one that can save them from destruction, and our frontier from much inconvenience, and probably from great suffering. This tribe receives from the Government, under treaty stipulations, ten thousand dollars worth of provisions, annually. The supply for this year was delivered (except a few barrels) about the last of July, and they are now represented as being destitute of subsistence. This is the result of the encouragement given them to carry their flour and pork to the traders and whiskey sellers. Their hunting grounds afford them very little game, and they cannot venture into the Buffalo range without hostile collision with other and more powerful tribes, who claim the country. In this state of things, there is great danger that many of them will perish next winter for want of food. They receive, also, large annuities in goods and money; but the whole of their money, and a large portion of their goods, are also transferred to the traders and whiskey sellers in a very short time after they receive them. And I beg leave here to repeat the opinion expressed in my last annual report, that the annuities paid by the Government to the Indian tribes in this superintendency are, under the existing system of trade and intercourse with them, a positive evil to them. Banish the licensed traders from among them, furnish them with such goods, and such only, as will be serviceable to them, in advance of their annuities; and if it be thought proper, at an advance of ten per cent. on the cost, which would pay the whole expense of the system, and save the Indians an average of *at least* ninety per cent. of the advance they now pay upon the cost of the goods they obtain, and let the factors employed in the delivery of the goods be placed under the supervision of the agents, subject to such checks as will guard against fraud and combination between them, and the Western Indians may yet be saved. But under the present system it does not require the gift of prophecy to foretell that the present century will witness their almost total extinction.

This is probably the last report I shall have the honor to submit in relation to Indian affairs; and in submitting it I feel it to be a duty to warn the Government, that the existing system of trade and intercourse with the Indians in this region of country is destroying them. They are victims of fraud and intemperance, superinduced by the large sums of money paid to them annually, and the want of proper guards to protect them against the superior cunning and avarice of unprincipled white men. The relation in which we stand, as a nation, towards this interesting race—the principles of our holy religion, and the dictates of humanity—demand at the hands of Congress a thorough investigation of the existing state of our trade and intercourse with them, and, as I humbly conceive, a radical change in it. But it is due to the subject to say, that the investigation will be met by a strong and influential opposition from without—an opposition deeply interested in the perpetuation of the system, but which, when understood, and

its motives properly appreciated, will tend forcibly to show the necessity of change. I am perfectly aware of the difficulty of effecting a legislative change in long-established systems; but feel great confidence that a proper and thorough investigation, which must ultimately be made, will manifest the necessity of meeting and overcoming all the difficulties that may present themselves in effecting a change in the laws which now govern the subject.

You have been furnished with the report of A. J. Bruce, Esq., of the St. Peter's agency. There is one feature of it to which I took occasion to call the attention of the department, under date of ———.

It is that which relates to the incursions of the half breeds of the so-called "Selkirk colony," on the Red river of the North. These people are represented as being numerous, warlike, and well armed. Their intercourse with the wild bands of the Sioux, who hunt in the plains between their residence and the Missouri river, and with whom we have no treaties, has generally been of a friendly character, and such as would have made them auxiliaries of a formidable enemy in the event of a rupture of our friendly relations with Great Britain. Recently, it seems, the friendly intercourse between them has changed its character; and the suggestion made by Colonel Bruce, of showing a military force in that region of country about the time of the annual incursions of these half breeds, would have a good effect. But I hope to be pardoned for suggesting, that it might form a very proper subject of remonstrance to the Government of which they are *subjects*, especially as our Government cannot permit the destruction of the Indian tribes under its protection by a foreign force, without interposing in some way.

The bands of Sioux with which we have treaties have conducted themselves peaceably towards our people, with but one exception. An individual of them is charged with the murder of a valuable citizen of Wisconsin. The offender is in custody in that Territory. The treaty of peace, entered into last year between the Sioux and Chippewas, under the sanction of the Sioux agent, has been faithfully observed, except in one instance—the murder of a Chippewa by a Sioux—which was amicably adjusted between the tribes. The Sioux, some time ago, proposed to hold a treaty, in the course of last summer, with their ancient enemies, the Sacs and Foxes, for the purpose of promoting more amicable relations between them; but the Sacs and Foxes declined to meet them, having, as they said, no confidence in the sincerity of their professions of friendship. It is probable, however, they were in some degree influenced by the consideration that they will very soon remove so far south as to be out of danger of collision with them.

The recent murder of a white man by the Sisseton Sioux, near the Otter Tail lake, and the capture and abuse of others by the party who were driving cattle to St. Peter's and had got lost, have been reported to the department, and I am gratified to learn that orders had been given from the headquarters of this military district for the advance of a military force into that region of country, to arrest the offenders.

The official reports from the school for the education of the Winnebago children continue to represent it to be well attended, and the progress of the pupils as giving great encouragement to perseverance in the effort.

The reports from the missionary school at Lac qui Parle, in the Sioux

country, show but a thin and irregular attendance of the Indian children. But the progress of some of them is favorably represented.

* * * * * * *

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN CHAMBERS.

T. Hartley Crawford,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(59.)

Raccoon River Agency, *September* 2, 1844.

Sir: Since my last annual report, no perceptible change in the condition of the Sacs and Foxes has taken place, and few, if any, circumstances have occurred of the kind usually deemed worthy of notice in our yearly statements. But although the Indians under my charge may not have advanced in improvement, in comfort, or in the cultivation and enjoyment of those habits and feelings by which their happiness, individually and as a people, would be promoted, still, I trust that, so long as we have reasonable evidence that they have not assumed a retrograde course, despite the unfailing inducements constantly held out to them by the base, the profligate, and the covetous, we have cause for gratulation, and may cherish a no less sanguine hope than formerly, that ere long the obstacles which impede their present advancement can be removed, and that the labors which humanity and benevolence may suggest for their welfare will not remain forever unrewarded. I am satisfied that I in no way overstep the bounds of reasonable truth in declaring that no family of our nomadic neighbors possesses in a higher degree than these tribes, rude and uncultivated as they still continue, those manly virtues, and those innate principles of honor and honesty, the existence of which must prove so efficient an aid for the eventual success, under the divine blessing, of whatever may be undertaken to insure their ultimate happiness, usefulness, and peace. They are now our friends, and generally, I believe, with much sincerity; yet the main motives of their friendship and dependence must of course be fear of our power, and self-interest as the recipients of our bounty. But let us excite their more noble principles to participate in this sentiment, and by protecting them efficiently against the designs and example of the wicked, and by banishing from among them the influences of avarice, we may more successfully endeavor to raise them from their present mental degradation, promote their moral and intellectual culture, and secure their welfare, both now and for eternity. True affection, and every generous impulse of the soul, would then actuate their friendship, and render it as much more durable than the present, and worthy of being confided in, as its motives are the more honorable.

It is doubtless known to the Government, that a design is entertained, by a large and respectable branch of the Christian church in the United States, to undertake an extended missionary enterprise among the Indian tribes, to establish Indian Episcopal schools among them, and some central institution, upon the manual labor system, for male youths of the different nations. Being addressed on the subject, I replied to the effect that no one could more devoutly wish such a consummation than myself; that there

was no work in which I would lend a more cordial co-operation; but that I feared, until a radical and entire change was made in some parts of our present intercourse law, little could be effected among these tribes.

Complaint and lamentation in reference to the iniquitous traffic in ardent spirits, so continually carried on throughout the Indian frontier, has been so frequently urged as to appear almost a worn-out theme; still, while the evil is upon the increase, and the fatal results which ensue from it become more and more deplorable, I cannot cease to cry aloud and spare not. The facilities afforded to the Indians for procuring liquor are multiplying; and during the past year large quantities have been brought to the line, and much of it introduced into the country; and although, in a few instances, it has been seized and destroyed, still the most unremitting vigilance is insufficient to check the evil, while the miscreants who cause it find the country accessible at so many points, and so long as there seems no authority to remove them when found passing about the country, if no suspicious circumstances are actually evident.

As the time is fast approaching at which the Indians of this agency are to occupy the permanent home to be provided for them under their last treaty, it is to be hoped they can be so located as to be entirely beyond the bounds of a white population, which, composed as it always is in a great measure, of the most abandoned, every experience proves to be hopeless, irretrievable ruin and misery to the red man. It is also the earnest desire of the Indians to be thus isolated; and I trust that it will be in the power of the Government to gratify them in this particular, as I know it is its desire to do in all things feasible. Situated as they now are, no amount of annuity which we could pay them would add in the least to their comfort, so long as such wholesale robbery can be practised—robbery of the basest sort, which often ruthlessly takes from them all that may minister to their necessities, and even to their existence, under pretence of rendering an equivalent, and that equivalent as often death. In fact, sir, as I have heard you express yourself, their very annuity is a curse to them; and as it is increased, their evils are multiplied. At the payment of last year, the sum due them was double nearly what it had been at any former period; and this year, some $16,000 will be paid them more than the last; yet they do not appear better clothed or better provided, but certainly, if it be possible, more intemperate. The last winter, although mild beyond example, was one of much suffering to them, for want of subsistence. True, the small remnant of their country which they now occupy is entirely destitute of game—forming in this particular a striking contrast with their possessions of ten years previous, the amount of their income for furs and skins, ranging at that time from $50,000 to $80,000 per annum, being now reduced to nothing—yet the vastly increased amount of their annuities should compensate for this failure of other sources of supply. They are by nature thoughtless, wasteful, improvident; still, their necessities are comprised within a narrow range; and surely, if these 2,200 Indians could be guarded against avarice and iniquity, $81,000 per annum should load them with every comfort.

By the plan which I have adopted for carrying into effect one stipulation of their late treaty, I am enabled to obtain at least proximately the number of deaths among the Indians, which, from the 1st of September, 1843, to the 24th August of the present year, amount to 58, besides, say 10, who, dying

while the bands were dispersed to hunt, their burial clothing was not called for; consequently, their deaths were not reported—making in all 68.

These Indians have, for the last year, remained in amity with the neighboring tribes. I reported to them the wish expressed by the Sioux, as communicated through your excellency, of holding a convention with them, attended by their agents, at some suitable spot upon the prairies, which, although they signified a willingness to comply with, they feared would be productive of no benefit. In fact, they entertained no exalted sense of the fidelity of their neighbors. With the Winnebagoes, they have been on more intimate terms than usual of late years, especially the Foxes; but since the recent outrages committed by the former, and particularly after I was informed of the measures you desired to adopt towards them, I have endeavored to restrain the Indians of this agency from visiting them. With the tribes of the Missouri, excepting the Sacs, Iowas, and Pottawatomies, they have no acquaintance, and never come in contact with them.

The agricultural labors of the Sacs and Foxes have been attended with better success during the present season than for the two previous years. In the winter, some of the chiefs applied to me to purchase four ploughs and the requisite harness. These I procured, and delivered to them, with which, and some previously furnished, that I caused to be repaired, they have cultivated a large quantity of ground, mostly in raising corn, for which the weather, although quite the reverse in the eastern portion of the territory, has here proved extremely favorable.

* * * * * * *

With great respect, I have the honor to be your obedient servant,

JOHN BEACH,
United States Indian Agent.

His Excellency JOHN CHAMBERS,
Governor of Iowa, Sup't of Indian Affairs, Burlington.

(60.)

ST. PETER'S AGENCY,
Iowa Territory, September 1, 1844.

SIR: I have the honor to report that but little change has been made in the condition of the Indians within this agency since my last annual report.

The farmers, so far as heard from, report favorably of the crop of corn the present year, which, together with the provisions furnished under the treaty of 1837, will afford an abundant supply for those who are recipients of the annuity paid to the Sioux.

It becomes my duty to call the attention of the Government to the fact that the half breeds of Red river make regular incursions into the Sioux country far within our boundary, and slaughter annually vast numbers of buffalo; the number yearly killed by those people of these animals within our territory cannot be less than 30,000. The supplies of the British Hudson Bay Company post are drawn from this source principally, buffalo flesh dried and tallow being sent in large quantities inland for that purpose. Our Government, I think, should see that the rights of the Indians under their protection are not infringed upon. These half breeds have not the least shadow of a claim to hunt upon the Sioux country, but, on the con-

trary, subject themselves to the penalty affixed by law to be inflicted upon all foreigners illegally in the Indian country. They come to hunt in large bands, well armed, and in too much force to fear the Indians; and as to the threatened interference of our Government, they laugh at the idea.

The consequence of such a state of things is, that quarrels are constantly occurring between the half breeds and the Sioux Indians, attended, sometimes, with fatal effects. I have advice of a fight which took place a few days since, between these people, at least 150 miles within our boundary. It appears that a half-breed Chippewa of Red river was killed by a party of Yanktons, of the Missouri, which was retaliated by a large party of half breeds upon another band of Sioux, (belonging to Lake Traverse,) who had no cognizance of the affair, and who were attacked by the half breeds without any warning, and eight Sioux were killed and two taken prisoners. These Sioux are highly exasperated, and will doubtless commit outrages upon any whites they may meet, by way of revenge.

If the Government would order a regiment of dragoons to our North-western frontier, to keep those foreigners from intruding upon our territory, the effects would be highly beneficial upon the Indians themselves, as well as upon their disorderly neighbors. It would appear but reasonable, also, that the Government should afford some such protection to their own citizens engaged in the fur trade. These men are generally, I believe, ready and willing to discharge their duty as good citizens, and would willingly lend their aid to Government if required. They are frequently exposed to danger in the pursuit of their business, and their influence upon the Indians is necessarily great. The fur trade is now, under the influence of causes, (some of which have been laid before you in this communication,) annually decreasing in value. The evil effects which the whiskey dealers upon the ceded lands have upon the Indians are incalculable. Some of the missionaries, in their reports, speak of these unprincipled men as traders, but the regular licensed trader would blush at the connexion; and I believe there is not a regular licensed trader in the Sioux country who does not deplore the introduction of spirituous liquors among the Indians as the greatest curse that can befal them or him, and who does not exert himself to prevent the use of this fiery poison among them. The country ceded by the Sioux on the east side of the Mississippi is filling up with whiskey dealers from below Lake Pepin, as far as Crow Wing river, on the Mississippi, which enable the Indians to get a supply at almost every point.

The attack upon a party of Americans by a war party of Sisseton Sioux Indians, near and west of Otter Tail lake, may in some respects be owing to the fight between [them] and the half breeds of Red river, as the party, no doubt, was out for the purpose of intercepting a number of Red river people that are in this neighborhood, and known to the Indians to be about starting for that place.

I herewith transmit the report of Rev. Thomas S. Williamson, of Lac qui Parle mission school. The other schools have not reported; and I am of opinion that there has been but little done by the missionaries, however anxious they may have been for the improvement of the Sioux.

Very respectfully, your excellency's most obedient servant,

AMOS J. BRUCE,
United States Indian Agent.

His Excellency Governor John Chambers,
Superintendent Indian Affairs, Burlington, Iowa.

(61.)

U. S. Indian Sub-Agency,
Turkey River, September 1, 1844.

Sir:

* * * * * * * * *

I arrived at the agency on Turkey river August 8, 1844, and on the 9th entered on the discharge of my official duties. The school bands, or those bands located in the immediate neighborhood of the agency, were on the ground, to the number of three hundred or more, and were very generally under the influence of whiskey, and in a state of great insubordination. The entire stock of annuity provisions had been delivered to the Indians and turned out of the warehouse previous to my arrival, with the exception of a few barrels of flour and pork; and these the Indians had an order entitling them to call for whenever they saw fit. Some of these provisions were in the enclosures of persons employed at the agency; some remained outside of the storehouse, and all waiting opportunities to be transported beyond the supervision of the agent. How much of these provisions inured to the benefit of these Indians, or what portion found its way into the hands of those who speculate on the thoughtless prodigality of their natures, it is impossible for me to state. Yet I cannot but surmise that the state of intoxication in which I found them, and the consequences which naturally followed it in the shape of depredations upon agency property, are in some degree attributable to this unusual mode of distribution. On the 9th of August, the Indians shot one working ox belonging to the department, and two cows belonging to one of the smiths. The next day, I wrote to Major Dearborn, commanding at the military post of Fort Atkinson, giving him information of the outrages committed, and requesting his aid in bringing the culprits to punishment. This request was promptly met, and the offenders arrested and punished.

As a further key to the causes which lead to these acts of violence on the part of the Indians, I extract the following from the report of the agency farmer, whose opportunities are favorable to the formation of a correct opinion. He says:

"There has been an unusual degree of insubordination on the part of the Indians of late. A large portion of them have been constantly drunk. They feel, and have evidently had counsel to the effect, that every thing belongs to them, and that they have a right to make such use of it as they please."

My own experience corroborates this view, and has convinced me that so long as interested half breeds and traders are permitted to remain within the Indian country, so long will these poisonous counsels be poured into the ear of the ignorant Indian, to the utter defeat of all the philanthropic views of our Government for their permanent prosperity. This being the case, there appears to be but one remedy, viz: a revocation of all licenses now in force, and the exclusion of all persons from the Indian territory, except Government officers and agents, and such other persons unconnected with trade (travellers for scientific purposes, observations, &c.) as may be specially permitted by Government. This would produce but little, if any, inconvenience to the Winnebagoes, whose supplies from the annuites, secured by the different treaties, if properly husbanded, are believed to be

adequate to his wants; or, if they are not fully so, a system of trade, under the auspices and control of Government, and carried on by Government agents, might be so devised as would effectually supply all deficiencies; and while on the one hand it would secure the Indian from spoliation, on the other it would effectually prevent all improper interference with the policy of our Government. Intimately connected with this subject is another, of great and increasing importance. I allude to claims of the half breeds, or relations of the Indians, to share with them in their annuities, and the influence they exercise over their actions. Most of these half breeds reside at a distance from the Indian tribes, affording them no assistance in their times of need, supplying none of their necessities, alleviating none of their miseries, and only appearing to claim their relationship when the revolving year brings round the annual payment, and the Indian has something to bestow. They then flock in from all quarters, not only claiming to share in the distribution of his goods and money when dealt out, but in many instances take advantage of the Indian's liberality, to obtain a further and larger division of the remainder; and should a Government agent attempt to counteract their schemes, their counsel is also ready, and another engine is at work to stimulate the passions and prejudices of the Indian into opposition to the views of Government and its officers. I do not mean to be understood as applying these remarks to all half breeds; on the contrary, I am gratified to be able to state that I have met many honorable exceptions. Of these, the major part reside within the Indian country, and are in fact identified with the Indian, and willingly share with him in his need the stores which superior foresight and frugality have enabled him to hoard. This is not an uncommon occurrence with those who reside with the tribe, and is not unfrequently attended with considerable expense. I can therefore see no objection to this class of half breeds participating in the annuities, when the wish of the nation therefor is clearly and distinctly expressed.

There is another matter, connected with the payment of the Winnebago annuities, to which I beg leave to call your attention. By the revised regulations of 1837, page 101, two modes of payment of money annuities are laid down: one to the chiefs, (in bulk,) the other to the heads of families; and the option of either mode is left to the Indians. From my limited experience, I may be deemed presumptuous when I assert a sincere conviction, that the payment of money in bulk to the chiefs, to be by them divided, is a practice pregnant of most serious evils, and should be abrogated in law, as dangerous in practical operation. These Indians are a jealous and suspicious race, quick to quarrel among themselves in moments of excitement, and for the most part too uninformed to understand the ordinary course of money transactions; and I unhesitatingly express the conviction that, amongst the Winnebagoes, an attempt by the chiefs to divide their annuity, in nine cases out of ten, would be followed by bloodshed. The reason is plain; the chiefs generally are not capable of making a fair and equitable division of so large a sum of money among so many bands, comprising so numerous a people. Assistance from the whites must be had, and the trader is called in. He will assist in the division without a doubt, but first his debts must be paid. The chiefs are his principal debtors, and of course will not deny him, when the payment is to be made out of the general fund of the nation, and not from their individual shares. The credits are usually extended to them, and the nation rarely know the ex-

tent of these credits; and when, as will always be the case under this mode of payment, the heavy accounts of the traders are taken out, and the remainder only (if remainder there be) divided at the discretion of the chiefs, dissatisfaction must arise with those who, having an equal interest in the money, and probably no participation in the benefits of the debts contracted, are shut out at last from a voice in the distribution. Dissensions will naturally break out, and, as the power of the chiefs is more nominal than real, obedience cannot be enforced, and a resort to violence speedily follows. I would therefore respectfully suggest the abrogation of so much of the law or regulation as provides for the payment of the annuity in bulk to the chiefs. We should then have one uniform and equitable rule on the subject. All parties would understand it. The nation would be brought to the agency once at least in the year, where the special agents of Government could meet them them if necessary. They would be prepared to receive their money in one way only, and the trader would have no inducement to impede the payment, in hope of being called upon to make the division himself.

The goods provided for the Indians this season have been in part distributed according to the best calculation I could make of their present wants and their future necessities. They appear to have been fairly put up, and of a quality, as I am informed, equal to those usually obtained for the purpose. I must, however, except the guns, which are of a very inferior quality. The Indians are much dissatisfied with them—many of them burst, some are damaged in the locks, and the remainder but illy suited for the purpose contemplated. This is an article of the first importance to the Indian, and he expects and should receive an article made for service, if possible. I think much might be saved by authorizing the agent to purchase many of the goods himself. He would not dare to purchase such guns for distribution. Again: would it not be well for the department, in contracting for Indian guns, blankets, &c., to have some peculiar marks affixed to each article, by which Indian goods in the hands of the whiskey seller and others could be identified, and the laws prohibiting the purchase of Indian goods more effectually enforced? I found the grist mill much out of repair, the Indians having forced off the locks and roved through it for their own amusement. It is completely exposed to the weather on the south end, and is rapidly going to destruction. The mill dam is gone for about 120 feet—a portion of it, say 40 feet or thereabouts, where the stream is from four to six feet in depth—the remainder is above water, brush having been laid down, and covered with stone. The dam can be repaired, and an appropriation for that purpose should be made as speedily as possible. It is difficult to estimate the cost of the repairs, but I should think $400 or $500 judiciously expended would suffice to set the mill in operation. The mill is situated so far from the agency buildings, that when not in operation it is liable to the intrusion of the Indians, unless a constant watch is kept up. To obviate this, I would suggest the propriety of causing to be erected, in its immediate vicinity, a small dwelling house, suitable for the residence of the miller, and where he should constantly reside. The duties of the miller and superintendent of farms at present are devolved on one person. This, I am told, was done on the principle of economy; but I am of the opinion that the change is productive of loss rather than gain. Where there are so many hands employed, I think it desirable to have two men who can be relied on, so that one can be at all times with the hands, and thus

prevent much waste that is now unavoidable. The duties of superintendent of farms, if faithfully discharged, are fully sufficient to give employment to one individual, without encumbering him with those of miller.

The buildings generally are in want of repairs. The dwelling-house of the sub-agent is built of logs, and clapboarded on the outside, and chinked and pointed on the inside. In wet weather, the logs swell, and compress the pointing out from the intervening spaces; and when the weather moderates, the logs shrink again, and leave openings the entire length of the logs. This, of course, renders them extremely uncomfortable for winter quarters, in a climate where the cold is so intense as it is in this. The remedy suggested is, to lathe and plaster on the inside. This will make them comfortable. The same remarks apply generally to the other dwelling-houses of the establishment. The roof of the dwelling-house of the agent, and his office, is out of repair, and leaks badly; so much so, that, in the office, there is not a spot where a table can be placed in wet weather, and be secured from damps.

The report of the superintendent of the Indian school, herewith enclosed, will afford you a clearer insight into the condition of that institution than could be gathered from the slight observations I have been able to make in the brief space since my arrival. I have attended one partial examination, in company with the military officers stationed at this place, and, though the time for an examination was unfavorable, I was pleased to find that the classes examined appeared to be as forward in their studies as children of their age could reasonably be expected to be under similar circumstances. The school was by no means full, as there is always a great interruption to the business of this department when the payment is about to take place. There were, however, fifty scholars. They appeared to be healthy and contented; and, so far as I could form an opinion, evinced no inaptitude for educational improvement.

For information in relation to the farming operations, both at the agency and among the more distant bands, I must also, in a great measure, refer you to the report of the farmer, which will accompany this.

At this place, there are about 450 acres enclosed, about 295 of which are cultivated by the hands employed at the agency, and about 150 by Indian women. At various distances from the agency, at the locations of the different bands—say from one to forty miles—there are nine enclosures, said to contain, in all, about 415 acres, under cultivation by the Indian women, except the ploughing, which is done by the agency hands. For a more accurate knowledge of the location of these farms, I would refer you to a map which I have caused to be made out, and which accompanies this report. The ploughing these lands, erecting and repairing fences, &c., occupy a large portion of the time of the hands employed by the department.

The crop of oats and corn, being all the grains cultivated on the uplands at the agency, has been nearly an average crop. But many of the bands plant on the bottoms, and the past season has been so unusually wet that but little if any thing has been realized from these farms. This leaves most of the bands entirely dependent on their annuities and the chase for a subsistence. The last, I am informed, is but a frail dependence, as, from the scanty supply of timber, game has become very scarce in the limited extent of territory which is allotted to these Indians. The farm at this place will contribute but little towards their support, as most of the corn has been already seized upon and devoured by them, to supply their im-

mediate and pressing wants. This was unavoidable. The Indians assembled here for the purpose of attending the payment in unusual numbers; and, from the fact, previously herein recited, of their provisions having all been distributed and consumed, wasted or sold, they were entirely destitute, as the extra provision made for their supply during payment amounted to but little more than one ration of fresh beef and flour to each; and, in their impatience to be on the ground, most of them assembled ten days before the time fixed for the payment. No other means were in my hands to provide adequately for them. In this distressed and wretched condition, it is hardly to be wondered at that they should have depredated on the corn fields.

In regard to the subsistence of the Indians, and the procuring their annuity provisions, I have become induced to believe, that if contracts were advertised to be let in the adjoining white settlements, they would be readily taken, and at less cost to the department than they could be had below, transportation and risk considered.

Of the moral condition of the Winnebagoes there can be but little said. The limited intercourse which I have had with them may render me liable to error of opinion; but I cannot help thinking that, from some cause or other, their improvement has not been as great as was to be expected from the means applied.

* * * * * * *

Of their general physical condition I can only say, that I have known of no unusual mortality or sickness among them. They appear to enjoy an equal degree of health and exemption from physical suffering with their white neighbors.

* * * * * * *

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JAMES McGREGOR, Jr.,
U. S. Indian Sub-Agent.

His Excellency John Chambers,
Sup't Indian Affairs, Iowa Territory.

(62.)

Winnebago Farm,
Turkey River, Iowa Ter., September 2, 1844.

Sir: Agreeably to your instructions, the following report of the Winnebago farm and mill is respectfully submitted.

I entered upon the duties of miller and superintendent of the farm September 1, 1843. The farm hands were employed at haying, which occupied nearly the whole month. No preparation had been made for sowing winter wheat; consequently, none was sown. There were several stacks of wheat on hand, some of it two years old. We threshed out five hundred and twenty-four bushels, which we issued to the Indians and ground; the remainder was in a condition so bad as not to pay for threshing, and we issued it to the Indians in the sheaf; they threshed the best of it, and manufactured it into food by boiling, &c. The corn was not so good as was anticipated. The potato crop was small; had a short supply for the winter, and but a few bushels to plant this spring. We built a joiners'

shop last fall, (16 by 20,) where we make and repair our own tools, as far as we are able. We have aided an Indian to build a cabin; he has finished it to his own taste—half house, half wigwam. Several other applications for aid in building we have been compelled to refuse. We have little doubt that the whole band connected with the school would soon be located in comfortable cabins, were we at liberty to aid them in this respect. Seven hands were employed by the department during the winter, and since the opening of spring from eleven to sixteen, according to the amount of work to be done.

In addition to the ploughing and aiding the Indians to fence all the land they have hitherto cultivated, we have ploughed about one hundred acres of new land, most of it for the bands recently removed from near the Mississippi. We have furnished four wagons and harness to as many different bands. They display considerable taste and judgment in matching their horses, as well as pride in the management of them. We have furnished one chief with tools for making hay, which he is now using at their winter hunting grounds, where we contemplate putting up fifteen or twenty tons, for the benefit of the Indians while on their winter hunt. Since the 10th of April, the season has been exceedingly unfavorable for farming operations, it having rained nearly every other day up to the 1st day of August, and since then as often as every fourth, up to the present date. Our haying progresses slowly; we intended to put up about seventy tons. We raised about sixty acres of oats, fifty acres very good; all of which we have secured in a passable order. We have about fifty acres of corn, which promises well, considering the season; about two acres of potatoes, and scarce a medium crop at that; seven or eight acres of turnips, all we could sow, owing to the wetness of the season; most of them look well, but the Indians are stealing them sadly. Several bands of Indians living upon the Iowa have lost their crops in the freshet; we made arrangements to sow their land with turnips, but could not for the high water.

The Indians living in the vicinity of the agency have good crops, which they are now harvesting. The stock on the farm is as follows, viz: 8 horses, 14 oxen, 3 cows, 1 bull; 1 ox shot by the Indians a few days since, 2 cows died with the murrain last winter, one horse died on the 23d of August.

Tools, &c., as follows, viz: 4 2-horse wagons, 1 ox wagon, 1 ox cart, 3 2-horse sleds, 2 ox sleds, 2 harrows, 1 cultivator, 15 ploughs, 8 ox yokes and bows, 1 scraper, 10 ox chains, 10 hay forks, 14 grass scythes and snaths, 4 cradles, 10 hoes, 5 barn shovels, 1 spade, 3 dung forks, 2 stone sledges, 7 chopping axes, 8 hay rakes, 3 crow bars, 1 mattock, 1 pair steelyards, and a small supply of joiners' tools for the use of the shop.

As it respects the mill—Turkey river, on which it stands, rose in the spring freshet nearly three feet higher than it has before since the mill was built. It carried away about half of the dam, which we soon repaired; and the mill was in successful operation until about the 20th of August, when the water rose to within three inches of its former height, and again disabled the mill, by cutting a new channel, and depositing a large amount of earth below the wheel, in such a manner as to leave it nearly on half the height of the fall under water. The damage, however, is not irreparable. The mill has also been somewhat injured by the Indians breaking into it, and running it merely for their own amusement. There has been an unusual degree of insubordination on the part of the Indians

of late; a large portion of them have been almost constantly drunk. They feel, and evidently have had counsel to the effect, that every thing about the establishment belongs to them, and that they have a right to make such use of it as they choose. The consequence is, they are stealing our corn, potatoes, and turnips, beyond endurance. They have recently, as you, sir, are aware, shot one of our working cattle—an act they have not done before for some years, if ever.

We feel, however, that an apology may be offered in their behalf. They are under the harrowing dominion of so many conflicting interests, that we hardly know whether to upbraid their insubordination or praise their forbearance. Rival traders, on one hand, assure them that their prosperity lies in a given direction, and that unless certain measures are adopted it will prove their ruin. On the other, they are assured that their happiness lies in the opposite direction, and their safety in opposite measures. They are assured by one class of men, that their only refuge from extermination is in renouncing their roving habits and cultivating the soil; by another, that their habits of life are productive of more happiness than those of the whites; that now they are noble as God made them, but will become dishonest and avaricious if they cultivate the soil. By one class they are told, that the loafers and whiskey sellers they meet about their country are no better than robbers and murderers; and, in turn, are told by the whiskey sellers that those employed by Government for their instruction are a set of villains, who live among them that they may embezzle their annuities, &c. Ignorant, credulous, and suspicious, they are whirled about by every opinion, but dare not move in the direction of any.

Again: we are placed here to instruct and encourage them in the arts of civilization; but if an Indian wishes to build a house—the first thing necessary for a civilized man—we are constrained to discourage him, lest his building should strengthen his attachment to the soil, and augment the difficulty of removal. They are tortured, too, with anxiety, in anticipation of being removed, they know not when, to a country they know not where, and it is not surprising that they should seek relief from perplexity and anxiety in intoxication. It is often done by wiser men than they; and we are only surprised that under its influence greater depredations are not committed.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

BENJAMIN TERRILL,
Miller and Superintending Farmer.

JAMES McGREGOR, Jr., Esq.,
United States Indian Agent.

(63.)

WISCONSIN SUPERINTENDENCY, *October* 18, 1844.

SIR: From my recent connexion with this superintendency, I am unable, from personal observation, to give such detailed information as is usually expected in our annual report, required by the rules and regulations of your department. From the best information which I have been able to obtain, I do not find that the condition of the Indians is materially changed from what it was last year. Peaceable and friendly relations have gener-

ally been maintained between them and the white population. Complaints, however, have reached me of depredations sometimes committed by the Winnebagoes and Menomonies; and a strong desire is expressed by the citizens of this Territory, that these Indians may be kept within their own limits, where the Indian title has not been extinguished. The Winnebagoes on the ceded lands within this Territory are bound, by treaty, to leave them, as also are the Menomonies, who are bounded in their possessions southwest by the Wisconsin river, northeast by the Wolf river, southeast by the Fox river, and northwest by the Chippewas of Lake Superior. Numerous individuals of each of these tribes range over most of the Territory, killing and destroying the game, and oftentimes committing depredations on the white population. Requisitions have sometimes been made upon the commandant at Fort Winnebago to remove them. He has always cheerfully done every thing in his power to effect that object. And Captain Jouett, the present commandant of that post, assures me that it is impossible to carry out the wishes of the Government, or of the citizens, in the removal of these Indians, and to keep them within their own proper limits, except by a company of mounted men, to be stationed at Fort Winnebago. He earnestly recommends such a measure, in which I most cordially concur.

Deputations from the Indian party, as it is called, of the Stockbridge tribe, and from the Missouri party, as it is called, of the Oneidas, have waited on me, to represent and explain their difficulties, respectively. The question of citizenship amongst the former, and that of removal beyond the Mississippi amongst the latter, still agitates them. I have not been able, for want of time, to give to those subjects such an examination as to satisfy my own mind as to what ought to be done. I therefore express no opinion in relation to them, but leave them for future investigation.

I send, herewith, the report, &c., of the sub-agent at Green Bay, which will give more detailed information of the Indians within his agency. I have not yet received any report or communication from the sub-agent at Lapointe, but will forward to the department any information from him as soon as received.

I enclose the estimate of funds required for fulfilling treaty stipulations with the Indians within this superintendency, and for the current expenses for the year 1845. These estimates are based upon those of the preceding year; and the only material alteration is the omission of the annuity of $6,000 to the Menomonies, which I suppose ceases by the limitation in the treaty.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

N. P. TALLMADGE.

Hon. T. H. Crawford,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(64.)

Green Bay Sub-Agency, *September* 16, *A. D.* 1844.

Sir: In compliance with the regulations of the Indian department, requiring me to make an annual statement of my sub-agency, I respectfully submit the following report:

I entered upon the duties of my office on the 1st day of January, 1844. The tribes in my charge are the Menomonies and the Oneidas. I am not at present able to furnish the numerical strength of the Menomonies. I believe, however, they number about two thousand five hundred souls. Their numbers can be more correctly taken at the annuity payment, to which I respectfully refer your excellency. About two-thirds of the Menomonies reside in their own country; the remainder reside on lands ceded by them in 1836. The country belonging to the Menomonies is bounded as follows: Southwest by the Wisconsin river, northeast by the Wolf river, southeast by the Fox river, northwest by the Chippewas of Lake Superior. A large portion of their lands comprises some of the best farming country in northern Wisconsin, and is also well timbered in parts with the white and yellow pine. Their country is washed by three of the largest rivers in the Territory, and possessed of immense water power.

The Menomonies are a brave, generous, and inoffensive people, but, I am sorry to add, they are, with few exceptions, men and women, addicted to drunkenness. Since my first acquaintance with them, which is of a number of years' standing, I cannot see the slightest change for the better in this respect. It is a lamentable fact, they will sell their last rag of clothing to obtain whiskey, and they are not at a loss to find purchasers; they are hunted like wolves by worthless traders, who have scarcely any thing to sell but whiskey. It seems to me the law regulating trade with the Indians is inoperative, and should not be restricted to the Indian country. A whiskey trader may open his shop within a few rods of the Indian land, put the law at defiance, and covertly sell as much as he pleases. Thus the bounty of the Government to the Indian is absorbed in whiskey, and his family deprived of the necessaries required by them for the winter. Since the first day I entered upon the duties of my office, I have exerted all the influence I am clothed with to induce the Indians to remove to their own country. Several small bands have left, and seem to be well pleased with their new homes. Others are under engagement to leave this fall. I hope to be able to effect the removal of them all in the course of the next season, without its costing the Government one dollar; but, in effecting this object, I am often brought in contact with the trader, who advises the Indians not to remove. During my visit to the upper Wisconsin in February last, on official duty, Oshkosh, the principal chief of the nation, complained to me of the high prices the traders were in the habit of charging the Indians for goods. He said they had to pay fifteen dollars for $1\frac{5}{8}$ yards of white list cloth for a blanket, and which cost the trader less than three dollars.

If a system of sutling could be established for the Indians, similar to that of the army, honorable men would embark in the business, and the wants of the Indians would be better supplied, and at much cheaper rates. For instance: a sutler being appointed, and having made the necessary purchases, let his goods be examined, as to quality, &c., by two or more agents, or other officers for that purpose, and let them place a fair per centage upon them. When an Indian wishes to trade, let him apply to the agent for a permit. On this permit the sutler will specify the articles furnished, and the price, as in the case of all merchants' bills. These permits, being examined by the agent or agents, will be a sufficient voucher for his pay, when the annuity payment takes place. I would also suggest that the sutler so appointed should give sufficient bonds, &c. This is a matter I

have thought seriously upon, and, in my opinion, the Indians would derive immense advantages from a system of trading similar to the one I have proposed; and I cannot but feel gratified at the opportunity that is furnished me of submitting it to your excellency. The Indian, being thus furnished, would procure all his necessaries at a fair price, and, above all, without having whiskey thrown in his way. It is well known that, having once tasted, the trader can do with him as he pleases.

The Indians complain that the whites engaged in lumbering on the upper Wisconsin, as well as on the Black, the Lemonware, and Plover rivers, trespass at will on their pine lands. I have caused notices, forbidding all persons from trespassing on their lands, to be posted up.

The Menomonies cultivate but little land, and that in small patches; the work is done by the women; they cultivate corn, beans, squashes, pumpkins, &c.; the men are too proud to work. They subsist principally by hunting and fishing, and on the collection of wild rice. The latter is to be found in great abundance in their country.

The two blacksmiths in my sub-agency have answered the expectations of the department, and have supplied all the wants of the Indians. The shops are in charge of sober, industrious men, and who have had a long experience in the business, who know the wants of the Indians, and the importance of their stations to the Government. The Menomonies have not had any schools in their country since they ceded their lands in 1836. I hope, however, to get one in successful operation this fall, on the Wolf river.

The Oneida Indians reside on the west side of the Fox river, about ten miles from the sub-agency. Their land is rich, fertile, and well watered, by Duck Creek and other smaller streams. They have forests of white pine, sugar maple, and other valuable timber. It is one of the best tracts of farming land in this section of the country, susceptible of supplying all the wants of the white as well as the red man. These Indians are, in a great measure, civilized. They have adopted, to a general extent, the language, dress, and manners of the white man. They are all farmers. A large number of these people, male and female, are members of churches. They have two very neat churches, Episcopal and Methodist. These would be a credit to many of our Western villages. They have also two school houses; the schools are under the superintendence and tuition of two reverend gentlemen, Mr. Davis and Mr. Coleman, who reside also on their lands. I have visted these schools on two occasions the present year, and have found them orderly and well conducted. The Oneidas live in good comfortable houses, cultivate large farms, and will have a large surplus of wheat, oats, barley, corn, &c., to sell this season; in fact, they have all the comforts of life about them.

For a more minute detail of their numbers, farm houses, cattle, &c., I respectfully refer your excellency to the report of the Rev. Solomon Davis.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

D. JONES,
United States Indian Sub-Agent.

His Excellency JAMES D. DOTY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(65.)

OFFICE OF SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
St. Louis, October 8, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * *

When I entered upon the duties of the office, I considered it my business to become personally acquainted with the various agencies and sub-agencies under my superintendence, and to know in person the manner in which the agents and sub-agents were discharging their duties, as well as other persons in the employment of the Government. To effect this object, I started, as you are aware, on a tour inspection about the 1st of May, and returned about the 20th of June. From the unparalleled high waters, I was not able to visit as many of the agencies as I had intended, and would have done but for the impracticability of passing the watercourses; I, however, visited the Delawares, Shawnees, Kickapoos, Stockbridges, Munsees, Weas, and Piankeshaws, Peorias and Kaskaskias, Ottowas and Pottawatomies of the Osage, and the Osages. With a few exceptions, I met the tribes I had visited in council, and gave them a *talk* in relation to their improvement, and the deep interest which the Government and people of the United States take in their well being. These *talks*, I was induced to believe, were well received, and I am not without hope, from subsequent observation, that they have had a good effect.

I regretted that I was prevented from visiting Great Nemaha and the Council Bluffs agency and sub-agency, as it was my intention to have visited all when I left St. Louis. I, however, visited the Council Bluffs sub-agency in the month of August, made the annuity payment there; was also at the Council Bluffs agency, but had not an opportunity of meeting the Indians, as they had not then returned from their summer's hunt; and on my way to the Bluffs I paid a flying visit to the Great Nemaha sub-agency.

My impression is, that visits by the superintendent to the different tribes are calculated to have a beneficial effect. They give him an opportunity of seeing how those connected with his department are discharging their duties, and also an opportunity of becoming personally acquainted with the Indians—of knowing their wants, their character, and the extent of their improvement; and, what is extremely important, it increases their confidence in the Government. A visit from a superior officer induces the impression that they are cared for by the Government; and I doubt not but an occasional visit from the Secretary of War and the Commissioner of Indian Affairs would be attended with good effects. I would advise that it be made the duty of the superintendent to visit once a year each tribe in his superintendency.

In my late visit to the Indian country, I had an opportunity of seeing more or less of most of the tribes of this superintendency; I found them, with a few exceptions, (and those contiguous to the Missouri river,) enjoying unusual good health. This is probably to be attributed to the fact that the high waters of this season had driven them from the creek and river bottoms to the highlands, where they intend to make their farms and residences for the future.

The calamitous freshets of the past season, which laid waste millions of property, and unhoused thousands of families, on the Western waters, have been felt with a particular force by many of the tribes on the western

borders of Missouri. Their country seems to have been peculiarly visited by the unparalleled rains of May and June, and it was their country which gave a spring to the flood of the Missouri river.

The Kanzas, Ottowas, Weas, Chippewas, Piankeshaws, Peorias, Pottawatomies of Sugar and Pottawatomie creeks, and the Osage Indians, have made little or no corn; some of these tribes have not made a gallon to each individual. Those who were more fortunate in the cultivation of highlands will probably have corn enough, with economy, to get them through the approaching year; many are seeding wheat, in view of the scarcity of bread stuffs. From all I can learn, the Indians have never made so great an effort to make corn as they did the past season—frequently planting, and as often drowned out; even after the rains had subsided, they had a prospect of making corn sufficiently matured for what is called sweet corn, but in this too they were disappointed; the army worm appeared, and swept off all. These tribes will have to receive some aid from the Government, or suffering and death will be the result. Their situation is rendered the more distressing, from the fact that the crops in the State of Missouri have signally failed; and if bread stuffs can be bought at all in upper Missouri, it will be at three times the usual price. I am not without hope, notwithstanding the great loss that these Indians have sustained in their crops, houses, fences, and in some instances every thing, that it will be to their ultimate benefit; they have with great energy and industry turned their attention to improving the highlands, where their crops will not be subject to freshets, and their health, no doubt, much better.

In my visits to the Indians, I have taken much pains to inform myself in relation to their capacity for moral and mental improvement; and I take pleasure in admitting, from the best information I could collect from school teachers, missionaries, mechanics, traders, and others who have been much among them, as well as from my own observation, that they are susceptible of high improvement, and that circumstances and education alone make the difference between them and the whites. Those Indians who have made but little advance in civilization require great caution and prudence in their management. They may be aptly compared to children, in regard to the arts and usages of civilized life. It is as necessary to take as much pains in their improvement as in the teaching of children the elementary principles of education. Hence, I fear that many who have embarked in the laudable enterprise of Indian improvement have expected too much in a short time; their impatience of success has discouraged them, and they have abandoned their labors in despair. All the tribes that I have met admit the necessity of their speedily adopting the habits of civilized life. They say (those who rely mainly on the chase for a living) that, from the nature of things, the buffalo must soon become scarce, and that they will be compelled to farm in order to obtain a support. An important inquiry here presents itself, with regard to the course that should be adopted as most likely to produce the desired improvement. It is scarcely to be expected that many of those Indians who have grown up to manhood, and been taught to believe labor a disgrace, and to look upon the buffalo chase as one of the highest enjoyments, can be induced to take hold of the plough. We must look to the rising generation as the subjects for improvement; they must be improved by manual labor schools, where they should be taught letters, farming, mechanical arts, and all the necessary arts of husbandry and housewifery, and the *Christian religion.* These schools or institutions

should invariably be intrusted to missionaries. I hold, that persons who go into the Indian country for the purpose of improving the moral condition of the Indians should be influenced by higher considerations than dollars and cents. Around these schools a society of educated Indians would soon grow up, that would give tone to still a greater number. I have seen but little good grow out of educating Indians out of their nation; they have probably, in a majority of cases, assumed the blanket, and studied to forget their improvement, and, to show their sincerity in their change of habits, have become, if possible, wilder than the wildest. I can conceive of nothing much more cruel than to educate an Indian girl in the arts and refinements of civilized life, and then turn her adrift among her wild friends; she must adopt their habits, or become the butt of their jests. But at schools in their own country, where both sexes will be educated in the useful arts, intermarriages will take place among the educated, and society will be formed that will lead to a rapid improvement of their nation.

I conceive that the missionary, or teacher of the Christian religion, is an indispensable agent in the civilization of the Indians. No one who is not steeled in prejudice can travel through the Indian country where they have missionaries without observing their beneficial influence. I take pleasure in stating, that I have not visited a single missionary in this superintendency whom I did not look upon as exemplary in his deportment, and highly beneficial to the Indians; many of them have schools under their charge which promise to do much good. I can speak from personal observation of those that I have visited. The Quakers, or Society of Friends, have a manual labor school in the Shawnee country, at which they educate forty or more of both sexes, consisting of different tribes; the boys are taught to farm, the girls the domestic arts suitable to their sex. The institution appears to be well conducted, the discipline parental, and, from a short visit, I should judge that "brotherly love" prevailed throughout the establishment. The Rev. Mr. Miesch, a Moravian minister, has a school under his charge in the Delaware country, at which are educated principally the children of the Munsees. Mr. M. is their missionary and teacher; and, though his is not a laboring school, being in a thickly settled neighborhood, and taking a deep interest in the general improvement of his charge, he is of immeasurable benefit to them, in advancing all their improvements.

The Shawnee Methodist manual labor school is situated in the Shawnee country, and is, no doubt, doing much good. It is under the management of the Methodist missionary society, and is conducted by a superintendent who has a supervisory control of the entire institution; there are several teachers employed in each department, male and female; the buildings consist of two large two-story brick houses for the schools, and several other dwellings for the mechanics and their families. They are now engaged in putting up another large brick building; when this is completed, it is intended to increase the number of pupils to two hundred. The farming operations are extensive. They have a good steam grist and saw mill, which is a great acquisition in the Indian country, as well as of benefit to the institution. Great care seems to be taken of the morals and general deportment of the scholars; and I feel confident that no State in the Union can present an institution with better morals and discipline than the Shawnee institution. At the establishment there have been, during the present year, about one hundred and twenty scholars, composed of ten

different tribes; their advancement in all the departments, as well as in mechanical labor, is highly creditable to the Indians as well as to their teachers and master mechanics.

The Catholics have male and female schools attached to their missions at Sugar creek, among the Pottawatomies, under the care of the Rev. Mr. Verreyett. The female school is conducted by five ladies of the society of the "Sacred Heart;" they have under instruction between sixty and seventy girls. The progress of the girls is exceedingly flattering; they are taught the useful branches of female education; at the same time, fashionable accomplishments are not neglected. A number of girls are supported and brought up in the family of the ladies. This school is supported entirely by the ladies and their friends. It is to be regretted that they have not the means to enable them to enlarge their operations; they are extremely anxious to have house room enough to enable them to put up looms. Too much praise cannot be given to these accomplished ladies, for the sacrifices they have made in alienating themselves from society, to ameliorate the condition of the Indians. The number of boys taught is about sixty; they are said to succeed well.

The use of ardent spirits among the Indians, the bane of the red man and the great barrier to his improvement, I am induced to believe, is being much reduced. I am satisfied that the traders, I hope without an exception, have abandoned the introduction of it into the Indian country. From personal observation, I am convinced that those trading with the border Indians do all in their power to suppress its introduction; and it is gratifying to know that many of the traders, not only on the borders but of those in the far West, are disposed to co-operate with the Government officers in suppressing its use among the Indians; but, like many of the evils, it seems to be difficult to suppress it entirely. A new source of supply has arisen through the Mexican country. Considerable quantities have been introduced by this channel among the Indians on the distant prairies, by men generally known as *free men;* they are men of desperate character, most of whom have deserted from the different trading companies, and now form a reckless band of desperadoes, engaged in illicit and destructive trade with the Indians, to the great prejudice of the regularly licensed traders. It is believed, by intelligent traders, that two sub-agents, to co-opperate with the agent on the upper Missouri, and to operate from the Missouri river to the southern line of our Indian territory, with the aid of the traders, might effectually break up its introduction from the Mexican country.

For the last eighteen months, the Indians on the distant prairies have manifested an unusual degree of insolence and violence to the whites—in many instances insulting, and in others firing upon and killing, when small detached parties are met with. One of the trading company's steamboats was fired into last year, while ascending the Missouri, by a large party of Sioux, and one man wounded; several of the balls pierced the timbers of the vessel.

I am not disposed to think that these attacks or insults are the effect of hostile feelings on the part of the tribes to whom the parties may belong. They are generally committed by young men who are out hunting or on war parties, beyond the control of a chief of influence; and their anxiety for plunder and scalps, unfortunately, under such circumstances, induces them to attack any party they may fall in with that is weaker than them-

selves; and the absence of all military force of the United States high up the Missouri renders them indifferent as to attacking the whites. Another cause has been suggested. In former years, when there were few traders on the upper Missouri and its tributaries, the dependence of the Indians upon them for supplies served as a guaranty for their peaceable conduct towards the whites. Lately, the competition has been active, and I fear has led to an opposition that is not creditable to the parties, but destructive to their interest, and which, by placing the Indians in an independent position, has lost them all control over them. It is not to be disguised, that a very disquiet feeling prevails among the border Indians of this superintendency, in consequence of the frequent attacks upon them by the Sioux. They can no longer go with safety into the plains, buffalo hunting; indeed, they have been sometimes attacked in their own country. The Pawnees, during the last year, were attacked in their village by the Sioux, and lost a large number of their people. They had but one gun and an old pistol for defence. The Omahas live in continual dread, and there is no doubt but that the civilization of both of these tribes is greatly retarded by their fear of the Sioux. The Delawares have frequently suffered by them, and indeed all the tribes who venture in their vicinity. My opinion is, that, if the Government does not do something to protect effectually the Indians of our border from the attacks of the Sioux, a general Indian war will be the result. Indeed, it is now difficult to restrain them from making common cause against the Sioux; nothing but their respect for the authority of the United States holds them back. But how long this authority will continue to restrain them, in the face of their continual grievances, it is difficult to say.

A strong garrison, high up the Missouri, which could cut off the ingress of the Sioux into the country owned by the border tribes and that occupied as a common hunting ground, would no doubt have the effect of affording ample protection to all the tribes; and their proximity to a strong force would insure a peaceable and respectful deportment to the whites. The campaigns that are frequently made by the dragoons in the prairies have no doubt a beneficial effect; and I take occasion to say, that the officers of the army, that I have had the pleasure to fall in with, take a lively interest in the improvement of the Indians, and in giving effect to the views of your department, especially in protecting the Indians along our frontier from the illicit trade of bad white men. It is to be regretted that the laws in relation to white persons visiting the Indian country to trade, and especially in spirits, are not more efficient—they are in practice a nullity. Such trade is generally *conducted* by persons of little or no capital, and the seizure and destruction of a few kegs of whiskey is not calculated to deter them from a repetition of the offence. There should be some summary punishment—a high fine, and, in case of inability to pay it, imprisonment. With *efficient laws in the Indian country*, and the disposition which is manifested on the part of the people of Missouri to stop all trade of the kind with the Indians, the destructive use of ardent spirits amongst them would be in a great measure prevented, if not entirely broken up.

It is to be regretted that a constant predatory war exists between the Osages and Pawnees, to which the Kanzas Indians are frequently a party against the Pawnees. It would not be so bad if this war of plunder were

confined to horse stealing, but an opportunity of killing and scalping is rarely suffered to pass.

The Osages and Pawnees, some years ago, had a meeting, and made a peace, which was kept for several years. I would suggest that, sometime next spring, a meeting of the various tribes in this superintendency, or rather of delegates from them, be had for the purpose of arranging their difficulties. If such a meeting would result in making them friends, and inducing them to live in peace for a few years, surely the Government would be well paid for the few hundred dollars worth of provisions that might be consumed on the occasion. Indeed, the simple circumstance of bringing them together in a social way, under the protection of the Government, would have a salutary effect.

There is a subject which is not connected with this superintendency, which I must be pardoned for bringing to your notice; its importance must be my apology, if any is needed. I have reference to the fact, that is said to exist upon good authority, of the Camanche Indians having in their possession a considerable number of women and children, whom they treat as slaves. They are said to have been captured in the Texas country; that the men were killed, and the women and children taken into the most abject slavery. These persons, or a large majority of them, were no doubt citizens of the United States before settling in Texas. I cannot doubt but that the Government of the United States will be disposed to take some steps to rescue these unfortunate people from the most distressing condition in which a civilized woman can be placed. They can only be released by purchase. The Osage Indians frequently meet the Camanches on their hunt, and trade with them; they have brought in several children that they purchased from them. A few thousand dollars, judiciously invested in suitable merchandise, and placed in the hands of a discreet agent, might be the means of restoring to liberty, friends, and usefulness, from one to two hundred women and children.

The Camanches are a powerful people. I believe they have never visited the United States; consequently, can have no idea of our physical power. I would suggest that a party of their chiefs be invited to visit Washington and the Atlantic cities, for the purpose of inspiring them with awe and respect for the United States. I understand that they are perfectly friendly with the whites north of Red river, but that they look upon all south as their enemies, and treat them as such. Such a visit as I have suggested might have a tendency to change their treatment towards such whites as may unfortunately hereafter fall into their hands.

I have found, in every instance where I have attended annuity payments this fall, a most decided dissatisfaction, on the part of the Indians, when any deductions were made from their annuities, without their consent, by act of Congress, for the settlement of depredation claims. They contend that Congress has no right to deduct the payment of their debts from their annuities; they say that the whites are protected in cases of depredation by the intercourse laws, which prescribe the manner in which their claims shall be adjusted; that they are willing to pay, as a nation, all just claims against their nation; but that they cannot admit the right of Congress, or of the Executive, to pay individual debts out of their annuities.

I cannot close this communication without urging upon your attention the great inequality at present existing in the compensation of the agents and sub-agents of your department. The agents receive $1,500 per annum,

while the sub-agents receive only $750. One would suppose that there was a corresponding difference in the nature and extent of their respective duties; and yet the only shadow of a shade of difference is in the mode of their appointment—the agent being appointed by the President with the concurrence of the Senate, and the sub-agent simply by the President. Their duties are the same, and the responsibilities of the latter are often much greater; for instance, the amount disbursed by the Osage river sub-agent is between fifty and sixty thousand dollars a year—a greater amount than is disbursed by any of the other agents of this superintendency; he has also under his charge eight different bands of Indians; the sub-agent at the Council Bluffs disburses but a few thousand dollars less. Why it is, then, that these officers, whose responsibility so far exceeds that of the agents, and whose other duties are precisely of the same character, should receive only one-half of the compensation of the latter, I confess I have not been able to divine. In justice to the sub-agents, I would most respectfully urge an increase of their salaries. It ought to be borne in mind, that those connected with the Indian department should be efficient persons; and the sacrifices made by going into a wild country, beyond the pale of society, should not be lost sight of. If the economy of the Government will not permit an increase of expenditure in the shape of an augmentation of their salary, the amount that is expended in the salaries of the agents and sub-agents of this superintendency would, if divided pro rata, give to each agent and sub-agent nearly $1,100; and, seeing no reason for a difference in salary where there is no difference in duties, I respectfully suggest that they be equalized.

Very respectfully, I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

T. Hartley Crawford, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(66.)

Council Bluffs Agency,
September 16, 1844.

Sir: In accordance with instructions and the regulations of the department, it again becomes my duty to report the condition of the several Indian tribes within this agency.

Otoes and Missourias.—These Indians have lately returned from a very successful buffalo hunt; and, as their corn crop is almost an entire failure, they design leaving early this fall for the same buffalo ground, and there spend the winter, which may leave our border settlements in peace.

The apparent alarm manifested by these rude savages since the outrage committed last year by them on the peltry boats on the Platte river, and the consequent death of one of the hostages at Fort Leavenworth, together with their not being able to procure a blacksmith, seem to give slight indications of feelings of reform, though they may yet be ranked as the most vicious and turbulent Indians on our borders.

The traffic in whiskey between the Otoes and the river settlements

below has rather increased the past season, and some Otoes have lost their lives in drunken broils.

I am inclined to think, from the experience that these savages have gained since the destruction of their farm, that, were an effort made with them in agriculture, the result might be more favorable; and for this and other purposes they wish to cede a portion of their country.

As to Otoe depredations, they have so long trespassed, and in such a multiplicity of ways, as now, savage-like, to pride in their skill for plundering.

The Pottawatomies have, during the present season, been making threats of war against the Otoes, for late aggressions; but I am in hopes that the latter may be so prevailed upon as to desist from repeating their depredations on the former, when there will be no difficulty in preserving peace between the two tribes, though, in my opinion, nothing but the fear of consequences will cause the Otoes to refrain, and respect the rights of man.

Very fortunately, the principal chiefs, headmen, and braves, of the Otoes and Missourias, were assembled at this place for the purpose of receiving their annuities at the time of Major Wharton's arrival at this post with his command of United States dragoons. The turbulent savages were assembled in council on the 7th instant, in a central part of the Major's encampment, when Major Wharton addressed them in language which, if they will keep it in their minds, will have a tendency greatly to improve their conduct.

Much as the human family deplore the condition of these rude Otoes, who have scarce a friend on the face of the earth, bad as their conduct yet is, I must in justice say for them, that within the last fifteen months their conduct has much improved; but when we shall be able to call them good Indians, is left for time to determine. In point of intellect, it might be said that they are inferior to no red people.

The Otoes and Missourias, in March, 1843, numbered 931 souls. Since that time, I think they have decreased.

The Otoes still insist that their limited annuity be paid in money.

The Omahas follow the chase, as usual. These rather docile Indians are poor indeed. The Omaha interpreter, who was with them on the chase, has returned, and gives the information that the Omahas spent the summer in the Sioux country, where their success has been better than any previous season for the last fifteen years; also, that, whilst on the hunt, a treaty of peace was made between the Omahas and several bands of Sioux. I learn from the same source, that the Sioux are resolved to continue their warfare on the Pawnees.

During the last winter, the Ohamas came down on their neighbors, (the Pottawatomies,) and committed numerous thefts, and for which they offered no other apology than that they were driven to it by necessity, as the nation were starving. The Pottawatomies, sympathizing with their situation, (notwithstanding the thefts committed,) made them presents to get them away.

Owing to the heretofore continued warfare of the Sioux on this little defenceless band of Indians, they had determined early last spring to build a village near this post; but the Big Elk (the first chief of the tribe) was advised that his people, by being so near, would be an annoyance to all those living contiguous to this place. He determined to keep his tribe

more remote; and they are now at their old village, about one hundred miles above this, and near the Missouri river.

The Omahas' corn crop, like that of the Otoes, is mostly a failure the present season.

By the best practicable means, we took a census of the Omahas in the month of October last, when they numbered 1,301 souls. At the same time, a census of the Pancas Indians was taken, who are neighbors to the Omahas, and speak the same language. The Pancas numbered 777 souls. The Omahas and Pancas, who were last year making arrangements to live together as one people, have declined uniting. The Omahas are still desirous to cede a portion of their country, by which to better their manner of living.

The Omahas and Otoes each claim the land on which this post is situated; and, as both tribes are desirous to sell, it would allay an angry feeling of jealousy and strife with these savages, to meet in treaty and adjust this right of soil.

The Pawnees follow the chase; they, too, have made a very successful summer hunt. Owing to the Pawnees having been assailed by their enemies on the hunting ground during the past winter, and to their having cashed away their corn the fall previous before it was sufficiently dried, (by which great quantities became unfit for use,) their means of subsistence became quite limited during the past spring, owing to which we were unable to procure from them the anticipated assistance in agriculture; and owing to said scarcity, the Pawnees left for their summer's hunt earlier than usual, and before their crop was sufficiently worked. This cause, combined with the great quantity of rain in the spring, will cause the Pawnees' corn crop to be somewhat short; and, what is more destructive than this, will increase their great thefts on each other, causing them to gather their crops before they have matured.

The late visit of Major Wharton, with his command of United States dragoons, to the Indians of this agency, will, I am of opinion, be productive of beneficial results. It is by impressing the dread of consequences on the uncultivated mind, that we may expect to win him over to better deeds. Hence the necessity of a sufficient military force in an Indian country to keep the heathen in awe. Unfortunately, Major Wharton was not informed, whilst at the Pawnee villages, of the contemplated murder and robbery of Lieutenant Fremont and his party, whilst passing through the Pawnee country, on his return from California. On hearing at this place that such an outrage had been projected by the Grand Pawnees, who yet inhabit the south side of the Platte river, the principal Pawnee chiefs, headmen, and braves, who were then at this place for the purpose of receiving their annuities, were assembled in council on the 10th instant, and Major Wharton gave them a very appropriate "talk," suited to the occasion; and six principal men, of those who have removed to their agricultural locations, being pointed out to Major Wharton as having resolved to protect Lieutenant Fremont, or die with him, were rewarded by the Major with presents for their good conduct, all of which will have a good effect on the Indians. The Pawnees have returned to their villages, and, I have a right to believe, much benefited by the late visit of Major Wharton, with his command.

There has been for some time an unhappy feud existing between the Pawnees who have removed to their new locations and those who refuse

to move; and by those dissenters refusing to put themselves under the influence of the whites, much mischief is done. It was those on the south side of the Platte who committed the outrage on the peltry boats of Pratt and Cabanne last spring. Much exertion has been made by the proper authorities to bring these Indians together, and place them under the influence of the white men in their country; and I hope, ere long, we shall witness a better state of things with this heathen * * * * * *

The attempt at teaching letters to the Pawnees thus far has failed; and results are proving to me that, whilst a teacher wears a commission as such, his operations as assistant farmer are not so beneficial as were anticipated. I am of opinion that it is to the interest of the rising generation of the Pawnees that there be established a manual labor boarding school at the earliest day practicable; and, to this end, I will confer freely and fully with those at the station on my visit in October.

I have given every possible attention to the blacksmiths of this agency, and I presume I hazard nothing in saying that their duties are being performed to the interest of the Indians with as much zeal as is to be witnessed in any Indian country.

You will see, by the reports of the farmers, the amount of agricultural improvements, &c., on hand at the station; also, that the four farmers have turned this season two hundred and fifty-six acres of prairie, which, added to their report of last year, will make three hundred and ninety-six acres of land in a state of cultivation by the Pawnees. I have thus far not been able to take a census of the Pawnees.

Temperance.—Most assuredly our red children of the forest learned to use the intoxicating draught from the white man. Could it be that none others but consistent temperance men were placed or permitted to remain in the Indian country, our aborigines would then have an example set before them worthy of imitation; and, until such an example is set, Indians will not be abstemious until they have so far advanced in civilization as, by their own enactments, to exclude white men of intemperate habits.

Trade.—Much might be said about the system of trade, as now conducted with our border tribes. There can be no doubt as to our border tribes being in a situation to profit by good examples, were they set before them. The trade is now carried on in the worst arrays of jealousy and strife, which is calculated to rekindle vicious passions in the minds of the heathen. The good feelings of licensed traders towards the Indians are easily summed up by the consideration of dollars and cents; and the fact of the enormous profits that Indian trade has yielded (producing an insatiable thirst for gold) causes this over-earnestness of strife. The soldiery are guarded against this kind of imposition, and, until our border community are in like manner guarded, they must suffer indescribably. As it is to the interest of this omnipotent trading influence to procrastinate civilization, and keep this unfortunate race in ignorance, we may always expect to find them doing so. Hence, we see this ruinous influence at trading posts and Indian villages, where is perpetrated licentiousness in its multifarious forms. At ordinary border trading posts, were there but one trader licensed, and he bound (as army sutlers are) to sell at a fair advance per centum, we might then witness harmony and good feelings, instead of imbittered strife. * * * * * *

May I be pardoned for giving it as my opinion, that it would be produc-

tive of beneficial results if the licensing of traders was intrusted exclusively to agents within their respective agencies, with power to revoke the same? This would enable agents to exercise the necessary power and authority over traders. As the system is now conducted, when a license is granted by a superintendent of Indian affairs, and a trader wishes to act in accordance with the worst passions of our nature, (and the Indian country is a favorable field to give vent to such passions,) the present laws and regulations will not enable an agent to keep the trader in his legitimate sphere. Indeed, traders seem to feel the influence which their wealth has given them in the Indian country, and which is so powerful as to thwart the views of the Government, when these views are adverse to the trading interest. Our commerce is protected on the high seas; and does not our poor unfortunate red man need protecting by land from the avarice of this all-absorbing influence? When the annuities shall cease with our border tribes, and the traffic in peltries be not worth attending to, then will the poor red man, with corrupted morals, be abandoned by the privileged licensed trader; when the Government, with her guardian care, may have to expend much treasure to so far reclaim this unfortunate race as to have them profit by good examples.

* * * * * * *

All of which is respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

DANIEL MILLER,
Indian Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY, Esq.,
Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(67.)

FORT LEAVENWORTH AGENCY,
September 21, 1844.

SIR: In compliance with the 12th, 13th, 14th, 18th, and 19th paragraphs of the Revised Regulations No. 3, I make the following report:

The blacksmiths of the Shawnees have been employed during the year in making and repairing agricultural implements; there is little or no other kind of work done by them; none on guns and traps. The Shawnees are an agricultural people; they depend on the produce raised on their farms for a subsistence. They have no towns or villages; each family select and settle at such a place as they may choose. I am unable to state any thing near the number of farms, or acres they have in their farms or in cultivation, or the quantity of produce raised by them. They all raise corn, potatoes, pumpkins, beans, peas, cabbages, and other garden vegetables, and many of them raise wheat and oats. This year their crops are very sorry, owing to the abundance of rain during the spring and early part of the summer. All those farming on the bottom lands of the Kanzas river, and other bottom lands, lost their crops entirely—not only their crops, but nearly all their stock of hogs, cattle, and some horses, all their fencing and houses, were swept off by the flood. In a few weeks I will make a report in detail of the damage done, as nearly as I can ascertain, to all the Indians, by the high waters, &c. Many of the Shawnees attempted this year to raise

hemp, but their crops of hemp were almost entirely destroyed by the repeated hard rains.

The above report will answer for the Delawares, Munsees, Stockbridges, and Kickapoos, except that the three latter tribes have no blacksmiths.

Kanzas.—The blacksmith for this tribe has been employed most of his time in repairing guns, making butcher knives, arrow points, small axes, and hoes. It can hardly be said that the Kanzas raised any corn this year; they farm mostly on the bottom lands of the Kanzas river, which was overflown from bluff to bluff, sweeping off all the fencing, houses, &c. As soon as they found their crops were lost, they made for the buffalo grounds, and returned home the 15th of September last, for the purpose of receiving their annuity, and to procure powder, lead, &c., and left again in a few days after they received their annuity. This tribe follow the chase. They number between sixteen hundred and eighteen hundred; they are a stout, active people. Their crops were very promising until they were overflown. The Kanzas bottom lands are vastly fertile. I asked them how they expected to live this year. They replied, that they could not tell; that their only dependence was on the buffalo and other game.

All the tribes within my agency are peaceable and friendly with the white people and other tribes of Indians, except the Kanzas; they are always at war with the Pawnees, and the Pawnees with them.

I am, respectfully, your obedient servant,

RICHARD W. CUMMINS.

Major THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Sup't Indian Affairs, St. Louis, Mo.

(68.)

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY, *October* 6, 1844.

SIR: The time having arrived at which it is made my duty to lay before you an annual report of the condition of the Indians within my sub-agency, I have the honor of submitting the following:

Sacs and Foxes of Missouri.—This tribe has suffered very severely from extreme high water during the past season. Their fields are situated in the bottoms of Wolf river, and their crops have been almost entirely destroyed. I have never seen greater efforts made by Indians to raise a large crop than were made by them this year; however, it will avail them nothing, which seems to discourage them. Much good, however, may result to them in the end, from this misfortune, as they may be induced to abandon the bottom land, which is very unhealthy. In fact, Nesomequot's band have made application to me for fifty acres of the pattern farm for cultivation, and express a great desire to quit the bottom. I endeavored long since to induce them to leave the bottom lands, and assured them that, if they would do so, they should have what ground they wanted to cultivate of the farm.

I herewith enclose the report of John W. Foreman, Sac and Fox farmer, which gives a particular account of the farming operations. All that this nation has to live upon till a new crop is made is what has been raised on the pattern farm, with the exception of a few acres of their own which escaped destruction.

It will be seen from the minutes of a council held with them, which is herewith enclosed, that they urge the Government to make them an advance out of their next year's annuity. I think it would be wise policy, under all the circumstances, to meet their request. The bills of mortality are larger in this nation this year than any since they have lived on this side of the Missouri river, and sickness is on the increase among them up to the present time.

During the summer, this tribe, while in the buffalo country, were discovered by a party of Pawnees, who could not resist the opportunity of stealing their horses. The Sacs pursued them, and in two skirmishes killed eight Pawnees, losing one of their own men. I think they are blameless in this affair. White men would have done no less, situated as they were, three hundred miles from home with their wives and children. I do not think they are disposed to be quarrelling and fighting with their red brethren. Towards the whites, I am still of the opinion that there is no tribe of wild Indians which entertains more love and sincere friendship than do the Missouri Sacs and Foxes; yet they are jealous, and lack confidence in their white brethren's professions of friendship. Indeed, I am not much surprised at this, when I consider how they have been treated. I had thought, until it was made my duty to tell them that $1,500 of their annuities had been withheld from them, for killing cattle of Mr. Wallis, that I possessed their confidence. It is difficult for me to make them understand that I did not participate in this stealing, as they call it.

It will also be seen by reference to the minutes of the council referred to, that this nation has made an unconditional surrender of their entire school fund, by appropriating it to the building up and support of the manual labor school about being established on the land of the Iowas, so long as they may remain on the land on which they now live.

Iowas.—This tribe has been less intemperate this year than any since my arrival at this post. It is thought they have not drank half the liquor this year that they have heretofore. This, perhaps, is owing to the absence of two of their chiefs, and their old interpreter, Jeffrey Dorraway, more than to a disposition to become a temperate people; nor has there been as many persons killed in their bacchanalian rows.

They have lost, perhaps, forty acres of their corn by the freshets; yet their crop is, in my opinion, sufficient to keep them from suffering for it until another is raised. They have asked for an advance out of their next year's annuity, of $3,000. I think it a reasonable request, in view of the $1,500 detained to pay the Wallis claim, leaving them so in debt as to preclude them from any further credit with their trader.

They must suffer, unless something is done by the Government in their behalf.

I am gratified at the course they have taken in regard to their school and smithing fund. It will be seen from the minutes of a council held with them, herewith enclosed, that they cheerfully gave their school and smith fund to the manual labor boarding school. And I might add, that after the Sacs and Foxes appropriated their school fund for this purpose, the Iowas said they would give as much as the Sacs and Foxes for the object. I should have met them in council immediately, and received the donation, but for a difficulty which presented itself to my mind, of making it perpetual.

I shall await the instructions of the department upon this particular sub-

ject. Nothing is hazarded by this delay, as they no doubt are in good faith in their desire to see this institution in operation.

Some time in the month of August last, four Pawnees visited this tribe for the purpose of stealing horses. In making their escape, they were overtaken by the Iowas, and one of their number killed, and the horses retaken.

I do not wish to speak too confidently about the benefits which I think will result to this nation, as well as to the Sacs and Foxes, from the establishment of a manual labor boarding school, as contemplated by the Presbyterian board of foreign missions. I cannot, however, neglect the opportunity of congratulating the Government and the benevolent individuals who have co-operated with me in bringing this desirable object to a close. It is now a settled matter, that the manual labor boarding school will go into operation as soon as suitable buildings can be erected for the accommodation of the children.

I take great pleasure in bearing my humble testimony to the qualifications and entire fitness of the individuals who are to have charge of this institution. If a knowledge of the Indian character and language, and devoted piety, are considered requisite, they certainly possess them in a pre-eminent degree. I feel well assured that the Government will never regret having contributed to the building up of this institution, but will be very soon induced to give more for the support of this school. I have ever considered this as the last hope of these unfortunate children of the forest; and I now feel more than ever convinced, that if this plan fails, their case is hopeless indeed, and beyond the reach of remedy.

I found it impossible for me to induce the Sacs and Iowas to take any goods as a part of their next year's annuity, such was their dissatisfaction at the kind and quality of those sent this year. I am a convert to Mr. Crawford's views of a return to the old factory system, with modification. It would give agents and sub-agents a little more trouble in one way, and relieve them from much in another. The Indian country would cease to be overrun, at annuity payments, with rapacious and unprincipled whiskey traders.

It is a fact, that I dread a payment of annuities as a child does the rod. The Indians will go in debt all they can; and if an individual fails to get his money, although the poor Indians cannot pay fifty cents to the dollar, yet I am blamed with their misfortune, when perhaps I may not know of the existence of their debts.

I have and ever shall use my influence with the Indians, to prevent the payment of any whiskey debts, regardless of all consequences to myself.

On my arrival here, I found many white men living with the Indians, some with and some without squaws. I know they have exerted and will continue to exercise an improper influence over the Indians, by intermeddling with my business with them, as well as to hinder and counteract the efforts of the devotedly pious missionaries who are stationed among them. When we had the pleasure of a short interview with you in August, this subject was adverted to, and I was happy to find that you concurred with me in the opinion, that they were trespassers by law, and should be immediately expelled from the Indian country. I have ordered all but one to leave; and this man will have to go, although he has been living with the Iowas for thirty years; yet I am confident he does them no good, and perhaps great injury. There is now within the Indian country but one white man without some regular employment. The Iowas here declined having a

blacksmith for the coming year, but wish a farmer. I have employed a farmer for them, to commence on the first of March next.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-Agent.

THOMAS H. HARVEY,
Superintendent, St. Louis.

(69.)

COUNCIL BLUFFS SUB-AGENCY,
September 26, 1844.

SIR: I beg leave, in compliance with the regulations, to submit the following report:

There has been no very material change in the condition or habits of the Chippewas, Ottowas, and Pottawatomies, of this sub-agency, for the past year. Some of these Indians continue to go to the States for liquor; but I am happy to say that a great many of them are strictly temperate, and do all in their power to suppress the use of strong drink. On the part of the latter class, there has been considerable improvement during the past year. Their agricultural pursuits have advanced more rapidly than during any previous season. The corn crops of this sub-agency are good, as also those of potatoes, pumpkins, &c. These Indians only require permanent homes, and a few good words of encouragement, to become a thriving community.

With scarcely an exception, these Indians desire to have schools in their country.

* * * * * * * * *

In regard to the purchase of these lands, I have to renew the recommendations of my report of September 26, 1843. The best time to open a negotiation would be about the first of June. The whole nation—men, women, and children—can then be present.

* * * * * * * * *

The mill and smith shop of these Indians have administered much to their comfort during the past year. They have asked for an additional shop; and at every council they ask for the schools which have been promised them. They ought also to have a physician.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

RICHARD S. ELLIOT,
Indian Sub-Agent.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington.

(70.)

WYANDOT INDIAN SUB-AGENCY, *September* 16, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * * *

The Wyandot Indians removed to this region in the month of July, 1843. Previous to their making any arrangement for a permanent settlement,

they encamped on the military reservation on the east bank of the Kanzas river, on low land, showing no disposition to locate on the land which Government, by the treaty, proposed to award them.

In consequence of fatigue in removing, a change of climate, and intemperance, together with the exhalations of the low ground on which they encamped, they lost about one hundred of the tribe. Little sympathy was manifested for the sick and dying—*the increase of the annuity to the survivors was enlarged.*

Under the above distressing circumstances, the Delaware Indians, who owned the lands on the western bank of the Kanzas, and who wished to sell said lands to the Wyandots, entreated them to cross the Kanzas and occupy their land until some arrangement could be entered into in regard to an agreement for the purchase of the same. It was late in the season when the Wyandots removed and commenced operations on this land. Their prospects for shelter were bad, and the winter before them; some exertions were necessary to shield them from the inclemency of the weather.

I arrived at this post about the middle of November, and found that the Wyandot Indians had employed a number of white men to build cabins and clear land for them. Some of these men had been employed by them, without regard to character or nationality. I felt myself in duty bound to drive out of the territory all such as could not give a fair account of themselves. This occasioned considerable opposition as well as grumbling. I ultimately succeeded in expelling from among them such men as they had introduced contrary to law.

The indolence and the intemperance peculiar to all the aboriginal remnants are strongly marked in the Wyandot tribe. Their fate seems to be irrevocably sealed. Necessity, however, has impelled a portion of the tribe this season to cultivate some land. It is probable that they will raise nearly enough corn for their own consumption. By the flood with which we were visited in May and June, some 90 or 100 acres of corn have been lost. Much sickness prevails at this time, and many persons have died this season. The tribe numbers in all 585.

The removal and provisionary fund allowed to the Wyandots last year by Government was placed in the hands of a commissary of their tribe, who managed it with considerable ability; rations were distributed to them twice a week, in bread and meat. This has plentifully sustained them until the arrival of their annuities, which were paid to the chiefs, according to treaty stipulations, on the 4th day of September, instant. They have divided it so as to give to each individual of the tribe twenty dollars, reserving six thousand dollars to pay for the Delaware land, provided Government sanctions the purchase. Very little of the annuity money went into the hands of the people. In the distribution, the chiefs, several of whom are partners in the trading establishment, kept back the amount due the store, leaving only a dollar or two to some of the Indians, to sustain themselves during the forthcoming year. There is but one trading house in the nation, and that is owned by the chiefs and half breeds.

The half breeds control the tribe; a majority of them are stubborn and vindictive, subtle, lazy, and deceptious. The form of government of the Wyandot tribe is an oligarchy, all power being vested in seven chiefs, even the power of trying themselves, from whose decision there can be no appeal. They have no written constitution, nor do the chiefs want any. Their feeling towards the United States is that of hostility. And I think the

same may be said of nearly all the prairie and mountain tribes, without hazarding much.

In regard to the Delaware lands, they have not yet given me an answer whether they intend to keep them, and pay for them out of their own resources, or whether they will take the lands which Government proposed by the treaty to give them. They promised to give me an answer this fall. It appears to me that a majority of the people are opposed to the purchase.

I have caused a frame blacksmith shop to be erected, and the Wyandots have lately completed a frame school house near the junction of the Kanzas with the Missouri, close by the smith's shop. I would not recommend the erection of any other public buildings until the land business is settled.

The Methodist society have erected a frame dwelling house for their missionary, and a hewn log meeting house for religious worship has been built near the centre of the nation.

One of the Wyandot tribe, a half breed, has, as I have been informed, been called upon by the chiefs to write a very daring and threatening article against the Government. I heard the article read in the Bellefontaine Gazette, printed in Logan county, Ohio. So perfectly ridiculous did I at first consider this publication, that I should not have called the attention of the department to it, had I not been requested by several citizens of Missouri to take notice of it. It being necessary, however, to give a detailed account of what is going on among the Indians, I have felt it my duty to apprize you of all. The name of the writer is ——, a reckless half breed. * * * * * *

After nearly a century's exertion to civilize the Indians, but little improvement seems to have been made. Humanity deplores the tardy progress of the American Arab, and drops a pitying tear.

The above is a plain, unvarnished statement of facts, such as I have felt bound to report, being myself responsible for the performance of my duty to the department.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JONATHAN PHILLIPS,
Indian Sub-Agent for Wynadots.

(71.)

WILLOW CREEK, PAWNEE COUNTRY,
August 14, 1844.

SIR: As the farming operations at this station for the Pawnee Loups and Republicans have, to a very great extent, been conducted by the undersigned conjointly, it is deemed proper that a joint report should be made.

The first prairie broke at this station was in 1843, and was about sixty-six acres; and during the present season about one hundred and twenty-four acres more have been ploughed, making in all one hundred and ninety acres now in a state of cultivation. Of this, about one acre was occupied in wheat, one in oats, and now about four acres in potatoes, ninety in corn, beans, pumpkins, and squashes, and some twenty-five in turnips. Most of the corn on the ground that was ploughed the past year will produce a fair

crop, and portions of it a large yield; but much of that on the sod will be deficient in quantity, on account of the bad quality of the seed. It is anticipated, however, that there will be a product of at least two thousand five hundred bushels. It may be proper to add, that some eight acres of the above have been cultivated this season in corn, potatoes, and garden vegetables, by the teacher, with the assistance of the blacksmith. The buildings of this station consist of a dwelling-house, occupied by the farmer; a house used for a mechanic's shop; a stable, and other accommodations for wintering stock; a dwelling-house of two apartments, occupied by the teacher; a school house; a cow shed, &c.; a dwelling-house occupied by the blacksmith, and one designed for the blacksmith's assistant; a smith's shop and coal house.

* * * * * * * * *

As respects the present condition of the Indians, although they are of necessity compelled to spend a part of the time at a distance from their farm, in order to obtain food sufficient for their support, as there is not yet land enough under cultivation to enable them to raise an adequate supply of provisions, still the desire in them is becoming more and more apparent, to abandon their present wandering habits, and remain permanently at their new settlement. Their prejudices against manual labor are evidently giving place to a spirit of emulation in the cultivation of their lands, and the adoption of the manners and customs of the whites. The last spring was a time of very great and general suffering, on account of the scarcity of provisions—greater, it is presumed, than they are wont to experience. While out on their winter hunt, they were suddenly surprised by a large war party of the enemy, which caused them to make a precipitate retreat, before they had procured their accustomed supply of meat; and on returning to their village they found a large proportion of their corn so badly damaged, on account of its having been imperfectly dried before packing away the fall previous, as to be totally unfit for use. These two causes, combined, produced the scarcity mentioned. For more than two months they subsisted mainly on artichokes and a wild potato that abounds in this vicinity. It was painful to behold their meagre visages and emaciated frames, becoming every day more wan, which but too plainly revealed the fact, that they were suffering severely for want of alimentary sustenance. It was during this period of privation that some reckless individuals killed two of the oxen in the care of the farmer, and also two cows and a calf owned by ourselves, and two cows belonging to the teacher. These proceedings, however, were reprobated by a large majority of the people, who united in defending the stock; and one man who was detected was so severely handled that one of his arms was broken, and another, who made his escape, durst not return again to the village.

Permit us, in conclusion, to make one or two suggestions relative to measures that we deem essential to the prosperity of this nation. Although the cultivation of the soil is indispensable to a state of civilization, yet the most efficient labors of the farmers will be of comparatively trifling utility, unless their minds receive intellectual and moral culture; without this, they can never advance in improvement beyond a state of barbarism. Hence the importance of schools, under the care of enlightened, efficient teachers. The school that has hitherto been in operation has been altogether unavailing, so far as the teaching of letters is concerned; for although the teacher has been for more than two years in your employ, and has had access to

the children for more than half that time, he has not conducted a single scholar as far as the first lesson in the monosyllables; and that not for want of a capacity or a disposition in them to learn, as has been fully demonstrated in the case of boys living in some of the families of the whites, but on account of the utter inefficiency of the teacher.

It cannot reasonably be expected that those who are advanced in life, and whose habits are confirmed, will readily conform to habits of civilization; hence it is desirable that the rising generation should be brought under the immediate influence and control of the whites; and to this end we would earnestly recommend the immediate establishment of a boarding school, and the appointment of competent, intelligent, and efficient teachers, who will co-operate with the farmers in training the children to habits of industry, virtue, and civilization.

It may be thought, perhaps, that, in making these suggestions, we have taken undue latitude, and wandered beyond the precincts of our appropriate jurisdiction; but our solicitude for the improvement of this people would not suffer us to be confined to narrower limits.

We have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servants,

JAMES MATHERS,
CAROLAN MATHERS,
Pawnee Farmers.

DANIEL MILLER, Esq.,
Indian Agent, Council Bluffs Agency.

(72.)

GRAND PAWNEE FARM, *August* 19, 1844.

SIR: I was employed through the autumn and winter building my house, drawing timber, &c., for Indians, making preparations for the spring's work, getting fuel, &c. As soon as the ground was free from frost in the spring, I attended to building that part of the fence around the village which was allotted to the Grand Pawnees; since the completion of which, I have been engaged in breaking prairie for Indians, tending a crop for the support of the team, cutting hay, &c.

I have had an Indian boy with me the past season, about 15 years of age, who is making as good progress in agricultural knowledge as a white boy could be expected to make under similar circumstances.

In consequence of my associate farmer (Mr. Gaston) having an assistant, I have been deprived of the advantage of working in connexion with him; in consequence of which, I have not been able to get along as speedily with some parts of my labor as I could otherwise have done.

I have the honor to be, respectfully, &c.

GEO. W. WOODCOCK, JR.

Major D. MILLER, *Indian Agent.*

(73.)

PLANK CREEK, PAWNEE COUNTRY,
August, 1844.

In accordance with your direction, I submit to you the following report: The fall of 1843 was occupied, aside from making two trips to the agency,

in gathering crops and putting up a log house, sixteen by twenty-eight feet. Our crop of corn was small, on account of its being planted late and on newly broken prairie. The most of it that was sound was consumed by the families. I raised about one hundred bushels of potatoes.

The winter was occupied in putting up a store room sixteen feet square, taking care of stock, sawing lumber, making yokes, harrow, and cutters, stocking plough, and getting wood for summer, hauling corn to the village, and assisting in fortifying the village, &c.

As soon as the ground was fit to plough, I turned up ten acres of last year's breaking, four of which are planted in potatoes and the remainder in corn. In all the above labor, Mr. Platt (whose nomination as teacher was rejected on account of the present condition of the Pawnees) has assisted me.

I have broken seventy-nine acres of prairie, three of which are sowed in buckwheat, six in turnips, and thirty-four Mr. Platt has planted in corn and pumpkins, and cultivated twelve acres of old ground, with the assistance of two Indian boys that we have had in our families, who have taken hold of work equal to any white boys of their age that I ever saw.

We have secured hay for the coming winter. Our crops look exceedingly well. There was but one of the Tappashes who attempted to put his horses to the plough; he ploughed two or three patches. Some of *this* corn looks well; the most of it is injured for want of hoeing. Much of the Pawnees' corn was injured in their caches last winter, so that they were obliged to leave early for their hunt, and their corn has suffered in consequence.

* * * * * * * * *

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEORGE B. GASTON,
Pawnee Farmer, Tappash Band.

DANIEL MILLER,
Indian Agent, Council Bluffs Agency.

(74.)

GREAT NEMAHA SUB-AGENCY,
September 30, 1844.

SIR: In compliance with what I understand to be the regulations of the Indian department, I proceed to give a brief account of the agricultural operations of the Sacs and Foxes of Missouri river, since the commencement of my services as farmer, in April last.

The past season, you must be aware, has been a most unpropitious one for farming operations. The unprecedented fall of rain which took place in the months of June and July, by which much of the best farming lands of the Indians were several times wholly inundated, has been a serious drawback upon the aggregate value of the farming products; notwithstanding, however, we have made an addition of sixty or seventy acres to the farm during the past season.

In relation to the quantity of corn, beans, &c., raised by the Indians themselves, in their separate fields, it is impossible to speak with any degree of certainty. Their fields were all ploughed in good season; and, from the anxiety and industry manifested by them, and from the testimony of whites who lived among them, I think their crops would have greatly exceeded

the products of any former season, had it not been for the destructive rains above alluded to. Such of their fields as escaped destruction from the waters have yielded well, perhaps exceeding an average crop.

Of the farm, however, under my more immediate care, I can give some more flattering account. Our corn crop consisted of about 60 acres, and, being out of the reach of high waters, was remarkably good. The wheat crop was likewise most flattering, until a very short time before the harvesting season, when, owing to the excessive rains, it was almost destroyed by the *rust*—so much, indeed, that a considerable quantity was left standing, being unfit for any thing. Upon the whole, it perhaps reached to one-third of an ordinary crop; and, according to the testimony of their miller, there were distributed among the Indians about 80 barrels of flour. The potatoe crop amounted to from 2,000 to 2,500 bushels, which have been well secured by the Indians. We have likewise raised six acres of turnips, which have produced 500 to 1,000 bushels. This, I believe, is the amount of the produce of the regular farm for the present.

I submit a brief recapitulation of the products of the year, with the remark, that the prices annexed are the *selling prices* of such articles, and bear no proportion to their *real* value to the Indians.

Corn distributed, 1,600 bushels, worth 50 cents per bushel	$800
Potatoes, at least 2,000 bushels, worth 37½ cents per bushel	750
Turnips, at least 500 bushels, worth 20 cents per bushel	100
Flour, 80 barrels, worth $6 per barrel	480
Total	2,130

Had the wheat crop succeeded, it would at least have *trebled* the amount distributed, and thereby increased the aggregate value of the products to over $3,000.

This estimate, when we take into view the great disadvantages and difficulties under which we labored in consequence of the rains, the amount of ploughing and other work done for the Indians in their separate fields, and consider, too, that our principal energies have been directed to the extension and improvement of the farm, is certainly far from discouraging, and guaranties an assurance that, with proper exertions and some extension of the farm, the annual products will more than double the fund set apart for agricultural purposes, and I think afford an entire support to the nation.

In thus briefly referring to the products of the farm, and to what might still be accomplished, I would not be considered as advocating a policy of raising quantities of produce, and distributing it among them annually. From a very limited acquaintance with the Indian character, I am well convinced that it would operate directly against the policy of our Government. There must be some necessity of exertion with the most civilized of our race, or exertion will not be made; and it cannot reasonably be supposed that a barbarous race, whose wants extend only to the most ordinary necessities, should ever trouble themselves to acquire a knowledge of farming, while all such necessities are supplied without the least concern upon their part. I would therefore suggest (I hope without overreaching my duty) that it would be wise policy to turn a large portion of the cultivated land over to them, and after retaining sufficient assistance to keep

the farm in repair, and to afford them the proper instructions, to apply the residue of the fund from time to time, as it shall accrue, to building them houses, purchasing stock, or such other beneficial objects as shall seem most appropriate. The farming department is well supplied with tools and farming implements of all kinds. The article most needed is a *threshing machine*, the purchase of which I would recommend as soon as circumstances will admit it.

The laboring hands employed the past season have rendered the most efficient and faithful service. The Indians themselves have evinced a much greater disposition to labor than I had previously supposed. Many of the principal men among them have done considerable work, with the squaws; and, with proper inducements and judicious management, I have not the least doubt but the Sacs and Foxes will ere long become an agricultural people.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

JOHN W. FOREMAN,
Sac and Fox Farmer.

Major W. P. RICHARDSON,
Indian Sub-Agent, *Great Nemaha Sub-Agency*.

(75.)

CHOCTAW AGENCY, *October* 1, 1844.

SIR: Full reports of the condition of the tribes in the Southwestern superintendency have been so frequently made, that I deem it unnecessary, on the present occasion, to do more than make such general remarks as seem especially called for, referring you, for additional particulars, to my own previous statements, and to the accounts of the agents and sub-agents connected with me.

The Choctaws have long been looking forward with anxiety to the coming of their brethren from Mississippi. While they have cherished, with a tenacity peculiar to Indians, the ties of consanguinity that connect the two bands, and have ardently desired a reunion, the more reflecting have apprehended serious consequences from the ingress of a people who have been for so many years exposed to all the bad effects that result from the intermixture of the white and red races, without any of the salutary restraints which are provided in districts set apart for Indian purposes. More than twelve years have elapsed since the western branch of the tribe separated from the eastern. During that time, the former has made considerable progress in civilization, while the latter, if it has not retrograded, has certainly not advanced. Those who emigrated have been constantly under influences the most favorable to intellectual and moral progress. Nothing has been left undone that could be effected by liberal and judicious expenditures on the part of the Government, by the labors of experienced and zealous missionaries, or by the unremitting efforts of their own leading men. On the contrary, those who stayed behind have either been led to the promptings of their own inclinations, or, if operated upon by others at all, it has been by those who have sought, for mercenary purposes, to keep them in ignorance, and excite their prejudices against improvement.

This difference in habits and feelings would be alone likely to lead to

dissensions. Unfortunately, other and much more serious causes exist. It was provided by the treaty of Dancing Rabbit creek, that those Choctaws who chose to remain in Mississippi should have secured to them certain portions of land, but that none such should afterwards be entitled to any share in the annuities. Even if the lands thus obtained were of no value, it is not to be expected that the western Choctaws, who preferred emigration, with their annuities, to Mississippi citizenship and reservations, should now be willing to give gratuitously a part of those annuities to those who voluntarily relinquished all right to them. But it happens that the reservations obtained as it were in exchange by the five or six thousand who remained were worth nearly ten times as much as all that was received by the fifteen thousand* who emigrated. The western Choctaws naturally feel, that, if any distinction was to be made, it should have been in their favor. They left the land of their forefathers—a land well adapted to their wants—and they incurred all the risk, privation, and suffering, incident to the migration of an entire nation to another region. They did not go from choice, but because the Government urged them to go; and they complain, with some reason, that those who refused to comply with its wishes should have been rewarded so liberally for their opposition.

Should it happen that the proceeds of the reservations of the eastern Choctaws have been secured for their benefit, it is not probable that any very mischievous effects will result from their coming. But if, as there is too much reason to fear, they are swindled out of their property before leaving Mississippi, and they arrive in this country destitute of means, serious consequences may be apprehended. They will, of course, be refused all participation in the annuity benefits of every description enjoyed by the Choctaws west. When the time for which they are to be subsisted has expired, they will be in a state of starvation. Artful demagogues will not be wanting to persuade them that all their troubles are owing to those who sold their former homes. What more is wanting to produce disturbances as serious as those which have so long distracted the Cherokee nation?

I have enlarged upon this topic, in the hope that measures might be taken by the department, before it is too late, to avert the evils apprehended. If a portion of the proceeds of the reservations could be saved, sufficient to secure for the reservees an annual income equal in proportion to the annuities drawn by the western Choctaws, all cause of difficulty would be removed. An application to that effect was made by the chiefs of the latter people, and forwarded through this office in February last, but it has never been answered.

It is already known to you that the Choctaws have adopted a written constitution and laws and a regular form of government; and it was stated, in my last annual report, that they had changed the organization of their legislative body, by dividing it into two branches—a Senate and a House of Representatives. The cause of this change I did not mention at the time, but it is worthy of notice. The nation is divided into three districts, one of which contains more than half the entire population. Experience satisfied them that the interests of the two smaller districts were likely to

---

* The number of the Choctaws west at this time is 12,410. During the emigration, and for two or three years subsequent, the mortality among them was very great. Of late years, they have increased in numbers, though very slowly.

suffer in the general council, from the preponderating influence of the larger one. To remedy, therefore, an actual practical inconvenience, a new body was organized, somewhat resembling the Congress of the United States in its structure. What is chiefly remarkable in this is the fact that the most populous district, which could have prevented the change, had the wisdom to foresee the bad consequences that might result from resistance, by arousing local and hereditary prejudices.

Other indications of improvement are not less striking. At the annuity payments may be seen full-blooded Indians, in the fanciful dress of their tribe, either as captains calling to the pay tables persons enrolled under them from registers in their own handwriting, or as traders referring to their legers or memorandum books in settlements with debtors or creditors. The different trading stands exhibit large quantities of cloths manufactured by Choctaw women, and more than half the Indians present are clothed in fabrics made in their own families. Before any part of the annuities is paid, enough is taken from them to support, during the spring months, for farming purposes, eleven blacksmiths' shops, over and above those furnished by the Government, besides moneys required for other purposes of a public character. The disposition of these sums is managed by the auditor and treasurer of each district, under the direction of the general council, to which they are obliged to render a strict account.

The Chickasaw emigration may be said to have been completed on the arrival of the parties that came with Benjamin and Henry Love last spring. A large portion of this tribe is settled in what is called the Chickasaw district—the westernmost part of the Choctaw country. This region was formerly exposed to the attacks of the wild Indians of the prairie, and the depredations of wandering parties of Shawnees, Delawares, Kickapoos, and other northern tribes. The establishment of Fort Washita, in a centra. part of the district, has proved an effectual safeguard, and it is becoming rapidly settled. The improvements so far have been made chiefly by half breeds and by whites married to Indian women. Some of the mixed bloods are intelligent, well-educated men. Many of them are wealthy. These raise large crops of cotton, and generally do all in their power to improve the country. As a people, the Chickasaws have made decidedly less progress than the Choctaws. They may, as a race, be less inclined by nature to improve, but the cause of their backwardness may be principally attributed to the large sums of money they received for reservations sold prior to their emigration, from the evil effects of which they have not yet recovered. Similar causes may again operate to their disadvantage. This fall, for the first time since their emigration, they will receive an annuity. The amount to be paid them, ($60,000,) though not more than they actually want at this time, is much more than they ought to receive in that way at future payments. Their entire number does not exceed 4,200; $30,000, or about $7 each, would be quite enough to divide among them annually. The Choctaw annuity will this year amount to but $2 per head. Last year it was $3, and it has never been more than $4 each. The Chickasaws are behind the Choctaws in agricultural knowledge, and are not so industrious. They perhaps require a larger annuity, but $7 each would be quite large enough. If they continue to receive $14, which will be the share of each this year, there is an end to all hope of their improvement. To view the case in its most favorable light, look at the working of the system on some head of a family, for instance, who has sense and prudence

enough to resist the allurements of the traders, or, more properly, the strong natural inclination of the Indian to spend all he has. Suppose that he draws $70 for himself, his wife, and three children; this would enable him and his family to live without work until the next payment. Now, even if inclined under other circumstances to be industrious, the very fact that he need not labor would be sure to destroy his energies. To remain idle and worthless would be all that could be expected from him. The great majority would do worse. They would spend their money as fast as received, either for liquor or such useless articles as large annuities are sure to attract, and then buy their food and clothing on credit. In this way debts would be created, which would ultimately diminish, and perhaps totally absorb, their national fund. If the annuities in future be restricted to $30,000, the remainder of their income would be sufficient, not only for the maintenance and instruction of all the children of suitable age in the tribe, but also for the supply of such agricultural implements and aid as the adults might require.

The Creeks differ materially from the other large tribes in many respects. They have not mixed so much with the whites, adhere more rigorously to the customs of their ancestors, have no written laws, and are governed entirely by their chiefs, the people having nothing to do with the making or the execution of the laws. Though troublesome neighbors before their emigration, they have since then given many proofs of a friendly disposition. They have frequently exerted themselves to procure the arrest of offenders against the laws of the United States, and in all their dealings have tried to conform to the views of the Government. Improvement among them is slow, but steady. They have always produced large crops of corn, and have, notwithstanding the immense damage done by the spring and summer floods, raised this year much more than they will require for their own use, which is highly creditable to them, as out of their own country there is a general scarcity. It is stated, moreover, by their agent, that the amount of cotton grown and manufactured by the people of the upper towns, during the past year, was nearly sufficient to clothe them.

A decided inclination has been manifested of late to better their condition in other respects. The example of the Choctaws, in voluntarily appropriating a part of their annuities for education purposes, has made a deep impression. General McIntosh, the most prominent and influential man among them, and many of the chiefs of the upper towns, hitherto the most hostile to innovation, have expressed a wish that schools might be established in their own country, subject to their own inspection. But a few years ago the whole nation, with scarcely a dissenting voice, insisted upon the expulsion of the missionaries residing among them.

The disputed questions between the Seminoles and Creeks still remain unsettled, owing to the continued absence of some of the gentlemen designated as commissioners to adjust them. It will probably be difficult to induce the Seminoles to become incorporated with the Creeks as one people, but I am not without hope that it can be accomplished. The most refractory are those of the recently emigrated Seminoles who have been living among the Cherokees. By the freshets in the spring, they lost their scanty supply of corn and many of their horses. They are at present in a state of deplorable destitution, and I think will listen favorably to any proposition that offers relief.

The other Seminoles, those who live south of the Arkansas, are some-

what better off. They are counted a peaceable and well-disposed people, and will doubtless be easily satisfied if their negro property is not interfered with.

The small bands of Senecas, Shawnees, and Quapaws, in the Neosho sub-agency, are said to be doing well. Judging, however, from the past, there is reason to apprehend that, in a few years, there will be none of them left. The Senecas from Sandusky ten years ago, shortly after their emigration, numbered 250; now there are but 125 of them. For this decrease of five per cent. per annum there is no perceptible cause. Their country is healthy, they live in tolerable houses, cultivate the earth, and can always get enough to eat. They are somewhat inclined to dissipation, it is true, but certainly not to a degree sufficient to account for so great a mortality. The decrease among the mixed bands of Senecas and Shawnees cannot be ascertained with so much precision, as they frequently include in their pay rolls (the only guide to their numbers) members of other tribes. It is said that the falling off is as great in their case as in that of their neighbors. These bands are the more entitled to our sympathies, from the fact that they not only refused to join the powerful confederacy of the northern tribes under Tecumseh, during the last war, but became efficient volunteers in the service of the United States.

The Quapaws, who once owned the greater part of the present State of Arkansas, and made good their possession against the incursions of the Osages and other warlike bands, are now reduced to less than 400. Nearly half of them drag out a wretched existence on the waters of the Red river, in a country they occupy by permission of the Choctaws. The principal part of them live in their proper homes in the Neosho sub-agency, on a small tract northeast of the confluence of the Neosho and Pomme de Terre rivers. Here various efforts have been made to improve their condition—so far, with little success. The propriety has been suggested, in another communication, of inviting the Methodist society to take charge of the various funds provided by treaty for their instruction and improvement. In this manner, I am confident much may be effected.

The Cherokees, the most advanced, and, all things considered, most important tribe under the protection of the Government, are still in a distracted condition. It is not my intention to enter into a detail of the causes of dissension, still less to express any opinion on the merits of the matters in controversy. It is, nevertheless, proper to call attention to the situation of those who emigrated prior to the treaty of 1835; and, in order to make the views submitted more clearly understood, it will be necessary to state some facts already well known to the department.

About the close of the Revolution, as the settlements of the whites were gradually surrounding and encroaching upon their ancient domain, the more enterprising among the Cherokee hunters crossed the Mississippi into the country then belonging to Spain, in search of a land where game was more plentiful. The accounts they brought back were so favorable, that, soon after the purchase of Louisiana, a formal proposition for an exchange of territory was made by that portion of the tribe that preferred the chase to agricultural pursuits. In the mean while, there had been a constant emigration; and when their proposition was acceded to by the treaty of 1817, which gave them a country west equal in extent to that they surrendered east of the Mississippi, the main body of the western Cherokees removed.

Without any assistance from Government, these people reclaimed from

the wilderness and from hostile tribes some of the finest portions of Arkansas; but they were not permitted to remain long in their new homes. In 1828 they exchanged them by treaty for another country further west, the same that is now occupied by the entire nation.

Their first removal, it has been seen, was induced solely by a love of the chase. It is a curious fact, that, long before the means of subsisting in that way were exhausted, they became an agricultural people.

They made considerable improvements; raised stock extensively—single individuals, in some cases, owning as many as 1,000 head of cattle—and from saline springs in different parts of their country they supplied the adjoining settlements in Missouri and Arkansas with salt. As far back as 1824, they adopted written laws; and they were the first aboriginal nation west of the Mississippi that did so. In a word, they set just such an example as the neighboring tribes, emigrant and indigenous, required; and they afforded the most striking proof of the practicability of civilizing the Indian race.

Ten years after their last removal, they were joined by the remaining and much the largest portion of the tribe from the east of the Mississippi. Disputes, exclusively political in their character, arose immediately between the two branches of the nation. The later emigrants, being the most numerous at the elections and in the councils, invariably overpowered their opponents, who, at length, were induced to apply to the Government for a partition of the country. The dominant party, being opposed to this step, endeavored to prevent by forcible means the adoption of measures for its accomplishment, and it is said attempted to punish the leading men in favor of it. A number of the first emigrants, or "old settlers," as they are called, have been obliged in consequence to leave their homes, and rely on their Arkansas neighbors for protection.

I am not aware that those who are thus exiled are charged with any crimes, or with any offence other than the attempt to effect a separation from their countrymen. Their case is one of peculiar hardship, and I cannot but think presents the strongest claims upon the favorable consideration of the Government.

They were the first to suggest the policy of emigration, and to demonstrate its practicability and expediency. The experiment in their case, and in their case alone, cost nothing. All they asked of the Government was, simply to give them lands it did not want, in exchange for lands that it did want. They might, with good reason, demand large sums by way of equivalent for the subsistence and other like benefits allowed to emigrant tribes in every other instance. They might justly claim compensation as the original and successful projectors of a scheme of vast importance and indispensable utility to the United States. But they seek for nothing more than the undisturbed enjoyment of what has already been granted them. They allege, that before they shared their lands with the eastern Cherokees they were contented and prosperous; that since that time they have constantly suffered, in their persons and their property, the most serious annoyance; and that they cannot remain with safety at their homes, unless secured by the Government from molestation.

The case of a third party among the Cherokees—those who made the treaty of 1835—is more generally understood; it is admitted on all hands, I believe, that their difficulties were entirely owing to the fact, that, induced by the urgent solicitations of the Government, and by the promise

of protection, they ceded the lands of their people east of the Mississippi. Several of them have been killed in consequence, and many more are in exile. They complain, with great reason, of the neglect of the Government to provide for their safety, and, like the western Cherokees, are still looking forward to its interposition in their behalf.

It is important that the course to be taken in regard to these disputes should be speedily determined. If the United States intend to interfere, the sooner it is done the better. If the parties are to settle their own difficulties, they should be so informed at once. The whole matter would have been decided long ago, but for the constant expectation that the Government would interpose. In the mean while, the dissensions are increasing, the peace of the frontier is in constant danger, and in case of an outbreak there is little doubt that some of the adjoining tribes and many of the whites near the line would take sides.

Should such an event occur, it may well be questioned whether there are troops enough in this quarter to meet the emergency. If they were required for no other purpose than the protection of the whites from Indian aggressions, the different garrisons might all be dismantled at once; for there is not a single tribe within striking distance that would seriously think of making war on our people. There probably exists among most Indian nations a lurking antipathy to the Americans, but it is invariably accompanied with a conviction of the hopelessness of any attempt at successful warfare against them; and in some instances the feeling of dislike is rapidly wearing away. The Creeks, for example, who were formidable opponents in the last war, could be relied upon as friends in case of hostilities with a foreign Power.

So far as Indians are concerned, military force is required on the frontier, mainly, I apprehend, to prevent internal dissensions among them, the aggressions of different tribes on each other, and the improper interference of whites in their affairs—in a word, to preserve peace; and, to answer the purpose effectually, it should obviously be sufficient to overawe opposition.

Another subject of importance in frontier affairs is suggested by an occurrence which, though reported at the time, I will again bring to your notice.

Some time in August or September, 1843, Jacob West, a white man, and an American citizen by birth, was accused of participating in the murder of a Cherokee in the Cherokee country. He was arrested by the authorities of the tribe, tried, found guilty, and condemned to die. Application was made to the United States district court at Little Rock, to remove the case from the Cherokee tribunals by writ of *habeas corpus*. The judge decided that West, by marrying an Indian, and living in the Indian country, had, for all legal purposes, become one of the tribe. The application was refused, and West was hung.

It is highly important that the officers and agents of the Indian department should understand this matter distinctly in all its bearings.

In the first place, are all other tribes to exercise the same jurisdiction? Are the Osages to be suffered to scalp any white man married among them, whenever, according to their peculiar customs, he may have incurred that penalty? If they are not, where is the line to be drawn? If an American, by marriage and residence among the Cherokees, becomes for all legal purposes an Indian, it is difficult to conceive why the same con-

sequences should not result from marrying and residing among any other tribe.

Again: what are the precise circumstances which denote the change of national character? Surely, marriage and residence are not alone sufficient; for it often happens that mechanics, traders, and others, in the Indian country, temporarily under the authority of the Government, take Indian wives. It will hardly be pretended that they lose their birthright as Americans in consequence. Is it the admission to full privileges of citizenship? A white man is never thus admitted. He can in no tribe, under no circumstances, be a chief. He can never participate regularly in the councils of the nation. He is always regarded as an intruder, looked upon with jealousy and distrust, and is liable to expulsion whenever the whims and caprices of the nation may suggest it. The indelible mark by which nature has distinguished the two races is not plainer nor more unchangeable than the political difference which exists between the Indians and whites domiciliated among them.

Supposing the question of citizenship to be determined, if the white man has really, "for all legal purposes, become one of the tribe," he will of course claim the benefits of his position. He will insist that he is not amenable to our courts for injuries done to the persons or property of other Indians; cannot be removed from the Indian country, unless his adopted countrymen request it; requires no license to trade, and no passport, if a foreigner; and, in short, is entitled to all the distinctions in favor of Indians expressed or implied in the laws of the land.

It is not intended by any means to cavil at the decision of the Arkansas court; but if that decision be correct, enough has been said, I trust, to show the necessity of defining with greater precision the rights of white men in the Indian country.

Efforts have been made, at different times, by some of the tribes, to confine to Indians the privilege of trading in their country.

In my opinion, these efforts should in no wise be countenanced. The object is generally to shut out the competition of such white men as are enabled, by their larger means or superior business facilities, to undersell the native merchants. These are chiefly men of mixed blood; in most cases, three-quarters or seven-eights white; far ahead in shrewdness and knowledge of the full-blooded Indians, at whose expense, if white men were excluded, they would endeavor to enrich themselves by raising prices.

Experience and observation have satisfied me that the less restriction there is upon trade, and the more open it is to competition, the better for the Indian. The doctrine, that trade is the most efficient promoter of civilization, is emphatically true in their case. There may be objections to the present system; but those which have been most strongly urged arise rather from the existence of monopolies and the want of competition in particular cases, than from any inherent defect in the system itself. It may be imperfect in its present shape, but I know of none other that would answer a better purpose.

It is perhaps travelling beyond my proper sphere to suggest the propriety of your recommending some plan by which sessions of the United States courts for Arkansas may be held at a point nearer the line than Little Rock. So many of its cases, however, grow out of transactions in the Indian country, and the parties concerned in such cases (often on the public account) are exposed to so much inconvenience on account of the

distance they are obliged under the present arrangement to travel, that I have felt unwilling to close this report without mentioning the subject.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

T. Hartley Crawford, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(76.)

Cherokee Agency,
Fort Gibson, September 30, 1844.

Sir: The period has arrived when the regulations of the department demand my annual report upon the affairs of the Cherokee nation.

I am happy to be able to renew the assurances contained in my last report, of their continued improvement, morally, intellectually, and socially. The liberal policy of the Government has produced the most flattering results. It has proved, beyond a cavil, the capacity of the Indian race for a high grade of civilization; and a steady perseverance in the same enlightened course, we may hope, may yet save them, on the brink of extinction, from what has almost seemed to be their appointed doom. The several matters deemed most worthy the notice of the department are, for greater perspicuity, arranged under appropriate heads.

* * * * * * * * *

2. *Morals, temperance—the whiskey trade.*

The Cherokee temperance society was organized in 1836, and has been steadily progressing in its work ever since its establishment. Its last annual meeting was held in November, 1843, when the whole number of signatures amounted to two thousand and seventy-three. Since that time, a number of very successful meetings have been held in different parts of the nation. Four hundred additional names are known to have been signed, and many more not reported have been added. The whole number of signatures reported amounts to two thousand four hundred and seventy-three. Of these, probably two thousand are Cherokees, and the rest whites or blacks. In connexion with this beneficent institution, it gives me pleasure that my duty permits me to allude to the conduct of the late commanding officer of Fort Gibson, Lieutenant Colonel G. Loomis. This gentleman, besides extending his humane exertions in this cause to the interior of the Cherokee nation, established a temperance society among the soldiers of the fort, the operation of which, I may freely say, proved highly beneficial. As I was myself at first more than doubtful of the good judgment of his proceedings, and the advantageous character of these results, I hope I will not be supposed to travel out of the record, in remarking that the diminished consumption of spirits, to which I shall presently allude, has been in no inconsiderable part attributable to the reform in the garrison effected by this gentleman's efforts; for the facility of introduction of ardent spirits through that channel undoubtedly led to its more extended use in the nation. The whiskey trade, in a moral view,

second to no other in importance, has fallen off very materially during the last year; and it is worthy of remark, that as little or less of this article was introduced during the suspension of the intercourse law than before. This has been attributed, however, as well to the want of means as of the disposition to purchase; at all events, the consumption is greatly diminished. The Cherokee laws for the discouragement of this trade among themselves are very effective, and are much more rigidly enforced than such could probably be among the whites. I am therefore decidedly of opinion, that the introduction of military interference, or the adoption of arbitrary measures on this subject, will be productive only of evils, by the spirit of opposition that it will inevitably excite. This remark, however, is not intended to extend to the protection from *our laws* of white persons who carry spirits into the country, or bring it up the river in bulk; against *them*, they cannot be too strictly enforced. While on the subject of their morals, I will advert to a vicious practice prevailing among the Indians, of habitually carrying about them loaded arms and secret weapons—a habit as unmanly as productive of danger and disorder. Although I have thought it my duty to advert to this vice, I conceive it to be remediable only by the gradual force of education, and the cultivation of a proper moral feeling on the subject, especially as it is a habit too much countenanced by the practice of their surrounding neighbors.

3. *Amusements.*

The Cherokees are a people fond of sports and social amusements. Many of them keep up the ancient custom of annual "ball plays," which usually take place after the crops are laid by. This is an amusement which, as a friend of their people, I would be far from discouraging or wishing discontinued, when not carried to an excess. It is, above all others, trying to their powers of endurance, and probably contributes largely to the development of their manly and athletic forms. It promotes social intercourse, by drawing together from all parts of the nation the young men, when, with friendly rivalry, a contest of skill, strength, and endurance, is maintained often for hours.

* * * * * * * * *

Besides this sport, they pursue that of training and racing the blood horse, are fond of dancing, and have an uncommon relish for music.

4. *Literature and the fine arts.*

The Cherokees are exceedingly fond of reading, and have a very inquisitive mind. They seem to take great delight, too, at present, in the manual process of writing, and take every occasion to employ it in preference to oral communication, not so much among themselves, however, as with the whites and agents of the Government. Many of them possess a taste for and some acquirements in general literature. Much benefit may be expected from their printing press lately in operation. The more general diffusion of information will lead to further improvement. Although imaginative, they have nothing that we can call poetry; but, as orators, they are conspicuous in some of the essential excellences of the art. Bold, brief, and earnest, they adapt their ideas and expressions with uniform tact to the nature of their subject and the character of their hearers, and *always*

stop when they have done. Their candidates for council follow our example of taking the "stump" upon all questions of public interest. They speak both in Cherokee and English; the latter being necessary, from the large number of white men who have been adopted by the nation. Although they are in some instances losing the native tongue, yet, as a written language, it has become, in a measure, fixed; and the tenacity with which they generally cling to it, as to many other of their national characteristics, renders it improbable that it will ever be entirely abandoned. Although not entirely ignorant of painting, they have had heretofore no scope for the development of any talent in that art, or in sculpture. In music they have a decided taste, and many of them perform well on different instruments.

5. *Character.*

The better class of the Cherokees are a grave, cautious, and reserved people, slow in bestowing their confidence, but stable and constant in their friendship, when once pledged, and as quick to resent as they are tardy to forgive an injury or an insult. Hence, public and private feuds are difficult to compose. One of their leading characteristics is *curiosity;* while they are extremely guarded in imparting any information concerning themselves, they are exceedingly inquisitive about the affairs of strangers.

6. *Health and climate.*

The health of the nation during the past year may be said to have been as good as that enjoyed by any population of the same amount west of the Mississippi river. Their climate is similar to that of eastern Tennessee; in winter it is very changeable, cold, and damp. This is the period most fatal to the inhabitants. Congestive fevers and rheumatism are very prevalent. The principal diseases of the country are chills and fever, occasionally bilious fever, not of a dangerous character, and easily controlled by medicine.

7. *Agriculture.*

The cultivation of the soil is now the only means of support possessed by the Cherokees, there being no game within the limits of their territory. Their soil is fertile, and yields an abundant support with but little labor. They raise an abundance for consumption, but nothing for exportation, at least not in sufficient quantities to derive any income from it. Their country is admirably adapted for grazing cattle, of which all of them have stocks more or less large. In consequence of the climate, only a portion of the country, resembling the northern parts of Alabama, is suited for the cultivation of cotton; tobacco and hemp grow well. They are very much in want of a good merchant mill; it would act as a stimulant to the raising of wheat, for which the soil and climate are peculiarly fitted. Though the soil, which is of limestone foundation, like all limestone regions, yields an abundant supply of springs, yet, except where these springs are found, there is, during the summer and fall months, a great scarcity of water.

8. *Mechanics and manufactures.*

Among the Cherokees there are many native mechanics, such as blacksmiths, carpenters, and gunsmiths. Looms are manufactured; and in one

instance a wooden clock was made. Many of them possess a great talent for the mechanic arts. I may here mention, as a gratifying evidence of the improvement of the Cherokees, the universal industry and the great ingenuity manifested by the females in manufacturing cloth and many other articles of domestic economy. Considering the very few advantages possessed by them, they evince a highly creditable degree of skill.

As noticed in a previous report, there are some of the most valuable salt springs in the United States situated within the Cherokee country. These have been leased ten years to native Cherokees; and the rents accruing to the nation are upwards of $6,000 per annum. There will be more salt manufactured than sufficient to supply all Arkansas, besides a large amount for export. The works are now in successful operation, the lessees having been prevented from sooner commencing their labors by the high waters, which had washed away the work already finished, and overflowed the springs. Besides the profit which the nation will derive from renting them, they are calculated to be of great benefit, by the employment they give the poor.

9. *Public shops and workmen.*

As the department is aware, the treaty stipulations heretofore existing for four blacksmiths' shops in the nation was, at the instance of the Cherokee council, so far modified by me, that, instead of the four shops for a year in the eight districts, there were put into operation *eight* shops for six months, one in each district. By this means, the poorer classes have been, I am informed, much benefited; and therefore, with the approbation of the department, this arrangement will be continued. Of these shops, six are worked by native Cherokees; the other two by adopted citizens. In all of them, native Cherokees are employed as assistants. In addition to these public shops, many others are established throughout the nation, being found necessary to supply the demand for agricultural implements. These shops, however, are owned by individuals, as sources of private emolument, the public shops being principally intended for the benefit of the poor. The quantities of iron and steel allowed the nation by the United States Government falls far short of what is now requisite for their ordinary agricultural purposes. At the next annual meeting of the council, I will endeavor to induce them to appropriate a fund to purchase at least double the quantity, if in the mean time the United States Government should not see fit to supply the deficiency. There are also allowed by the treaty one wagon maker and one wheelwright. At the request of the council, this was also changed by me to two wheelwrights, it being found that one wagon maker could not be of much service. By this means, the nation is now supplied with four hundred spinning wheels annually. This supply, however, is not found equal to one-third the demand.

10. *Political and social relations.*

The political divisions, which have agitated the nation ever since their removal west, I regard as the greatest impediment to their attainment of a high standard of civilized improvement. The source and extent of these discords have been too frequently noticed, and are too thoroughly known to the department, to require further mention at this time. I will observe,

however, that there is a disposition now apparent, even with the weaker party, to submit quietly to their present government, not from any partiality which they entertain for it, but from a conviction that it is their interest to live peaceably and cultivate the soil. Temporary peace and quiet have been restored, by the knowledge that the Government has appointed commissioners to investigate and settle all causes of controversy. I will further add, that the temper of the nation is well suited at this time to receive such a kind interposition, which it is not less our interest as a humane and benevolent Government, than our solemn duty under existing treaty stipulations, to afford.

During the last year, besides the national dissensions, their civil organization was exposed to other and unaccustomed tests. Several murders were committed in the nation, and one act of unusual horror and turpitude was perpetrated by a half-breed Cherokee, who is supposed to have fled to Mexico. Every effort was made in such case to bring the offender to justice. Whether the offence has been against the nation or the United States, their laws have been most rigidly enforced, and the greatest efficiency has been displayed in every instance. There were, during the last year, four capital executions, and many prosecutions without conviction; of those executed, two were Cherokees, one a Creek, and a white man.

11. *Seminoles.*

It is known to the department that within the limits of the Cherokee territory has resided for the last two years a portion of the Seminole tribe recently emigrated from Florida, numbering, it is believed, about one thousand souls, headed by two formidable chiefs, "Alligator" and "Wild Cat," the latter a restless spirit, and, in the opinion of the undersigned, a man of no ordinary mould. It is a source of gratification to the Cherokees to learn that the Government are about removing them to their own soil. This is a subject of the last consequence to all parties concerned, and it is hoped will be matured and carried into effect before the end of the present year.

12. *Military.*

This subject is one of the most important that can be brought under the notice of the department. It is a fact, not less notorious than true, that military men long in command on the frontier, being, to some extent, within their sphere of action, independent and irresponsible to the civil magistracy, exercise an arbitrary and sometimes capricious control over the Indians within their military precinct. Rude and barbarous savages must necessarily be kept in subjection by arbitrary power, under the regulation only of a sound discretion. Those who are commissioned to exercise such a government should use it with kindness and humanity, and should not resort to severity and harshness until the actual exigency calls for them. But the Cherokees are not to be confounded with rude and uncultivated barbarians; they have many of the attributes and characteristics of a people who live under the administration of regulated justice, and who hold themselves responsible to the dominion of civil law. Indeed, they have cultivated the sensibilities of social civilization to a great extent, and have intelligence to understand and appreciate their rights and

privileges; and the fact that they are too weak to protect themselves from the encroachments of superior power should not be so much their reproach as those who may be disposed to oppress them. The Cherokees are willing modestly to receive instructions when they ask for it, but are justly tenacious of ancient rights and customs, and regard with jealousy and aversion any arbitrary interference with them. These are considerations which it is feared have too little influence over a portion of the frontier garrisons; sometimes it is the case (I hope not unfrequently) that military commanders, truly feeling the superiority which education and an enlightened regard to the right of humanity are so well calculated to inspire, extend to the Indians all the kindness and sympathy which characterize the more liberal feelings of our nature, cultivating a proper social intercourse with them, as well for the useful knowledge as the pleasure to be derived from it, and, by a prudent course of conduct and forbearance, subduing their prejudices and enlisting their friendship; while at another time there is nothing but harshness, prejudice, and proscription, in which the Indians are regarded and treated as so many sources of vexation and trouble. While one regards himself as the agent of the Government, whose duty it is to carry out its general policy in liberalizing them and cultivating a kindly intercourse, which may be mutually beneficial to the parties, another considers them as imbecile inferiors, to be awed into submission, and even degradation, by contempt and an air of assumed superiority. An arbitrary temper, confirmed, perhaps, by the habit of military command, sees in the time-honored observances of an ancient race only so many impertinent infringements on the discipline of social organization; one is content to confine himself to his legitimate province of command, (the military reserve,) with a willingness to co-operate with agents in correcting any existing abuses that may fall within their sphere of action; another endeavors to extend his military dominion over the whole country, reaching even to subjects of a local character, and which belong and should be entirely left to the Cherokee authorities themselves.

The military construction of the intercourse law is as variable as the climate is changeable; each commanding officer construes its provisions as he understands them; and an act that was perfectly in accordance with law yesterday, is to-morrow asserted to be in direct violation of its provisions. Arrests are sometimes made with a high hand, and fugitives pursued with a multitude of people, and under circumstances well calculated to inspire terror, and offend the national pride of the Indians. These irregularities and abuses of authority assume the character of caprice, are highly vexatious, and have a mischievous tendency, producing deep irritation and an abiding discontent among those who are subject to them. It is no part of my duty to descant upon the authority, rights, and duties of the army, except so far as they conflict with my privileges as the agent of the *Cherokees;* and then my duty, exercised more in "sorrow than in anger," compels me to do so. In many instances, the civil law might be judiciously applied in the correction of the evils that are often occurring from causes growing out of the relation of the officer and Indians. It would certainly suffice in many cases where arbitrary discretion is with too much facility substituted. By the present head of the army, there is manifested a wise and wholesome feeling on this subject, which it is hoped will be diffused through the lowest grades of this most honorable arm of our service. What I have said I hope will be regarded as not inappropriate suggestions. It

would be well for all parties concerned in the control and government of the Indians, if their prerogatives could be defined and laid down as the permanent law of the land, or an acceptable officer of rank and attainments could be permanently located on the frontier, with a general supervisory control in matters of conflicting jurisdiction.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. M. BUTLER,
United States Agent.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City.

(77.)

CHICKASAW AGENCY, *September* 3, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * *

Since my last annual report, there has nothing of much importance transpired in the nation to speak of. The Chickasaws are gradually improving in their habits, but I must say with many of them that it is very slow, scarcely perceptible; but I have great reason to hope that things are about to take a change, and their improvement will be much more rapid. The noble example that is set them by the Choctaws will certainly stimulate them to action. There is apparently a large party of the Chickasaws that are willing and ready to go strongly in for the improvement of the nation, and for the education of their boys and girls; and I believe that so soon as they get one general annuity they will make liberal appropriations towards schools.

A plan has already been drawn, and will be forwarded with this report, for an academy, which will be supported by the gratuitous annuity of 1794. The Chickasaws have this year fine crops of corn, and some of them have large crops of cotton, which will turn out very fine. The seasons have been good. The planters on the upper Red river and Washita have this year raised corn only, but the next year they will plant a great deal of cotton.

* * * * * * * * * *

Some of the Chickasaws are opposed to be governed by the general laws of Choctaws, but some of the most intelligent are in favor of it; they say that, in their treaty with the Choctaws, they agreed to come under their laws, and they have the right to aid in making those laws, and are willing to abide by their treaty; others wish to carry out their old ancient rules and customs, which, in my opinion, would be well calculated to keep their people in ignorance. Since my last annual report, several Chickasaws have emigrated from the old nation to this, and the most of them have settled in the Chickasaw district, and they are among the most talented of the tribe. Some few of the Chickasaws have fine cotton gins, and more will be erected the next summer; and some of them have blacksmiths of their own.

On Boggy, Mr. William R. Guy, (a white man,) who married a Chickasaw, has a fine saw and grist mill that runs by water, which will be in operation in a few weeks. Colonel Joel H. Nail, an intelligent and enterprising Choctaw, is now building a fine saw and grist mill on high Blue

river. Colonel Slone Love, one of the Chickasaw commissioners, is making arrangements to build a horse mill and cotton gin on his farm.

The Chickasaws have not had an annuity paid them since they emigrated. They are very anxious to receive one, and they really need it. It is too true that some of them must suffer this winter, unless they get some money to purchase blankets and other necessaries to protect them against the severe winters that we have in this country; the winds come from the Rocky mountains without interruption, and the cold is severe. More Indians die during the winter in this country than in the summer and fall; and the only way I have to account for it is, the want of proper clothing.

The Rev. E. B. Duncan, of the Methodist Episcopal church, has been sent to establish a mission among the Chickasaws. He has been preaching to them a part of this year. He has lately brought his wife on, for the purpose of teaching school, which they have just commenced. The Chickasaws are sending in their children from all directions. From the acquaintance I have with Mr. and Mrs. Duncan, I believe they will be of great advantage to the nation; from every appearance, they are devoted to the cause they have embarked in. They are both received very kindly by the Chickasaws.

There are now at Colonel R. M. Johnson's school in Kentucky eighteen Chickasaw boys. Some of them will be sent home on the 1st of October; the others will remain a year or two longer. Agreeably to the treaty between the United States and the Chickasaws of the 24th May, 1834, the United States agree to pay $3,000 per year, for fifteen years, for the education of Chickasaw boys and girls within the United States. This amount has been spent at Colonel Johnson's school thus far, and the Chickasaws are still willing to keep up the number of boys at the school.

The Chickasaws have not been troubled by other tribes stealing from them the last year. I have no doubt but depredations would have been committed, were it not for Fort Washita. The appearance of soldiers has a great effect on those marauding Indians, particularly when they see them on horseback. Some of the Delawares, who are scattered about in small numbers on Boggy, Blue, and Washita rivers, were very much enraged at the citizens of Texas for killing three of the Delawares this summer, while in that Republic on a hunt. The men that killed them were caught by the citizens and hung, and as much of the property of the Indians as could be found was brought to me, to hand over to the Delawares, with a promise, that should they find any more, they would bring it over or inform the Delawares of it, and they could come over and get it. But they would not believe that the white men had been hung, and would not be satisfied without the Texans permitted some of them to tomahawk some one or two white men.

About ten days since, some of the Witchitaws came near Mr. Warren's store (which is in this district) and stole several horses from some Delawares that were on their way to Fort Washita. The Delawares followed after them, and killed two of them, and got all their horses back. The Witchitaws and Kichi Indians are hostile towards Texas, and I believe the United States. They are the same that made the attack upon Colonel Love's place last year, and it is my opinion that they should be made to know or do better. If they cannot be persuaded to do so, they should be forced to it.

So far as I am acquainted, there are no gamblers among the Chickasaws, nor do I ever recollect of seeing a card in the hands of one. There have been no white gamblers among them that I have heard of. This year there has been more whiskey brought among them than usual. Wagons that haul goods to the merchants, and public property for Fort Washita, and also those that bring bacon, flour, &c., in the nation, frequently smuggle whiskey in. Opposite the mouth of Fort Washita there is a large distillery. The Indians frequently go over and bring in ten or twenty gallons at a time; some white persons have also been engaged in the business. They bring it in at night, and are never seen in the day. The places of deposite have frequently been found, and their whiskey destroyed.

I am happy to state, the Chickasaw light horse have been quite active in hunting up whiskey, and they have have met with success. They destroy the whiskey wherever they find it.

The above report is respectfully submitted.

I have the honor to be your most obedient servant,

A. M. M. UPSHAW,
United States Indian Agent.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

P. S. You will find, by the enclosed letter from the Chickasaw commissioners and chiefs, that the number of Chickasaws enrolled by James Gamble and William Burnitt was four thousand one hundred and eleven. It is probable that this number will be increased one or two hundred when the annuity comes to be paid. A. M. M. U.

(78.)

CREEK AGENCY, *August* 20, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * * *

So far as I have been able to discover, no important changes have taken place to better the condition of the Creeks within the last two years. On the contrary, in the lower towns, they appear to be rather retrograding. I find this portion of the nation flooded with whiskey; probably double the quantity of that article is now among them, to what I have known at any time previous. While such a state of things exists, it is impossible that they can prosper.

As regards agriculture, except those who lived in and cultivated the low lands of the different watercourses, and whose crops were partially destroyed by the high waters of last spring, the Creeks appear to have an abundant crop; and no doubt a considerable surplus above the consumption of the whole nation will be raised, notwithstanding the loss occasioned by the high waters. It consists principally of corn, for the cultivation of which the rich soil of the nation is peculiarly adapted. They also raise large quantities of sweet and Irish potatoes, yams, melons, pumpkins, squashes, &c. Some few have also raised wheat, for which the climate and soil are both congenial. Some rice and cotton have also been cultivated, nly a partial crop of which can be anticipated, the climate being unfaorable to their production in large quantities. But little spinning and weav-

ing is done by the lower Creeks, or those living in the vicinity of the Arkansas. This indolent feeling is greatly to be attributed to the quantity of whiskey consumed by them, and also by their dependence upon the annuity—though this is bound to exist in a greater or less degree among any people who have any thing else to depend upon besides their own resources.

The upper Creeks, who reside in the vicinity of the Canadian, and who are principally composed of the emigration of 1836 and 1837, are, generally speaking, in a better condition than the lower towns; their being located at a distance from the Arkansas from the settlement of the whites, and also being further removed from the neighborhood of their speculative and more civilized neighbors, the Cherokees, causes the importation of whiskey into their country, to be a matter of more difficulty, and there is consequently less of that pernicious article to be found. They generally live in good hewed log houses, are excellent farmers, and generally more reflective and economical than their brethren of the lower towns; and their females are generally occupied in the domestic occupations of spinning and weaving cotton, of which article a great proportion of what they manufacture is of their own country produce, of which they make nearly sufficient to clothe them. The lands they cultivate are fresh, rich, and, from every account I can obtain, will this year produce them an immense crop of every thing they cultivate. The Creeks are also considerable stock raisers; and many of them own considerable numbers of horses, cattle, and hogs. The health of the nation at the present time is generally good. * * *

W. N. Anderson, owing to circumstances which rendered his stay in the nation improper, quitted it without reporting to me the state and condition of the school hitherto intrusted to his charge. The Presbyterian missionary, Mr. Loughbridge, possesses the confidence of the nation; his conduct does credit to the society that sent him, and the course he has pursued, if continued, must eventually overcome the still remaining religious scruples of the Creeks, and be followed by the advancement of the Indians in civilization and moral rectitude. Every thing on my part will be done to forward his views.

The general council of the Creeks will take place this fall; in attending it, I shall not fail to make an attempt to impress upon the minds of the chiefs the necessity of their bringing into operation the law passed by the council some years since, making the sale of ardent spirits a capital offence among their own people. This course will effectually check the consumption of the article in the nation.

As all the power, both executive and legislative, resides in the chiefs of the nation, it is to them generally that we must look for the manifestation of the feeling entertained by the nation towards the Government and towards the whites generally; and it is gratifying to me to have it in my power to state that it continues uninterruptedly friendly and harmonious, as well as to the people of the different nations bordering upon their country.

* * * * * * * * *

Which is all respectfully submitted.

I am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient servant,

JAMES LOGAN, *Creek Agent.*

Colonel WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,

Acting Superintendent, Western Territory.

(79.)

NEOSHO INDIAN SUB-AGENCY, *September* 15, 1844.

SIR: * * * * * * * * *

1. *Quapaws.*

This tribe, I am happy to inform you, is rapidly approaching to civilization and contentment, and has much improved since my last annual report. It is true, a murder of rather an aggravated character was recently commited by one of their men, upon the person of another; but, as the act was universally condemned by the whole nation, and the murderer forced to flee the country for safety and protection, I do not think, by any means, that it should be considered as an indication of declining morals of the people, but as an outrage to which, unfortunately, the most civilized and refined society is subject. It is the only instance of the kind that has ever occurred since I have been among them. They seem to manifest a strong disposition to imitate the whites in their dress. Many of them are now wearing pantaloons, shoes, &c., in the place of their former rude apparel. They have suffered exceedingly this year, by the unprecedented freshets and overflows of the Neosho and Pomme de Terre rivers; the rise of the former was at least fifty feet above its ordinary height, and was so very sudden as to sweep off nearly the whole of the stock, of every description, of those who were living upon it, together with all their crops, fencing, and in some instances houses also. Some fifty or sixty of these people have since left the bottoms of the Neosho, and are now building cabins where they will hereafter be secure from any freshet. But this portion of the tribe is in a miserable condition, for the last overflow took place too late in the spring to replant; consequently, they will make no support for the approaching winter and ensuing year. Upon the whole, notwithstanding the disasters occasioned by the flood with which they have been visited, the Quapaws, as a nation, will make more grain this year than the last, and would, had not a portion of their crops been totally destroyed, and all of the remainder much injured by the heavy rains, have made, I will venture to say, twice the quantity they ever have in one year since their occupancy of the country. This is evidently owing to the unremitting care and attention paid to their interest by J. D. Luttrell, their worthy farmer, whose indefatigable efforts to instruct them will soon make them an agricultural people. They do not live in villages, but are scattered over the country, each man with his family to himself. This gives the farmer much trouble, as it is necessary for him to make frequent visits during the cropping season to each and every family. Independent of this, he has to make all the wood work connected with the utensils used by them for farming purposes.

The Quapaws also drink less whiskey this year than formerly. I am satisfied that they have made use of much less of that most fatal and deadly enemy to the Indian race during the present and past year than the same number of white men of the States, taken promiscuously from society, and would, were it not for the most diabolical designs of the most depraved white men perhaps upon the face of the earth, drink little or none. They would seldom go in pursuit of whiskey, did not this description of white people, who settle themselves as near the frontier as possible, produce the article, and hold out inducements to the red man to come *and drink,* well

knowing that, when once where it is, he will not be satisfied until he obtains a sufficiency to make him drunk, even at the sacrifice of his most valuable property. The Quapaws possess a most beautiful country, about one-half of which is prairie, and nearly all in a body; the remainder is generally good land, and well timbered, with very pure water.

2. *Senecas and Shawnees.*

This tribe is gradually but slowly advancing in civilization and agricultural pursuits. The Shawnee part of the tribe may be considered a sober, industrious, and a farming people. They raise corn, wheat, oats, pumpkins, beans, and a variety of garden vegetables. They have in a great degree quit the chase, and depend almost exclusively upon the cultivation of the soil for a support, from which they draw an ample competency. One of their head men, who is really a pattern for the rest of the tribe, makes corn to sell. They made preparation this year for cultivating much more land than usual, but the heavy rains and the swelling of the Neosho and Pomme de Terre rivers and Lost creek prevented their doing so; consequently, their crops are much short of what was at first anticipated; nevertheless, they will make, I think, a sufficiency to carry them through the next year. The freshets also swept off a part of their stock. The Seneca part of this tribe is more dissipated than their brothers the Shawnees, nor are they so industrious; their farms are not so well tilled, nor are they as large, nor is their improvement in civilization as perceptible; yet they are an honest people. This tribe is entitled under treaty stipulations to a saw mill, to be built by the Government of the United States, which I earnestly hope will be done, as the benefits accruing to them from the same would be great. The mixed band of Senecas and Shawnees has a well-watered and valuable country, about one-third of which is prairie of the best quality. The northern boundary of their country adjoins the southern part of that of the Quapaws.

3. *Senecas of Sandusky.*

It would be doing this tribe great injustice not to say that they, too, have morally improved in the course of the past year. They are decidedly in a better condition now than I have ever known them to be. When I first came here, I found them as much or more addicted to drunkenness than their neighbors, (Senecas and Shawnees.) This was no doubt owing to their contiguity to a whiskey distillery which is located in the State of Missouri, within a mile of the Seneca mills, and as near the frontier as it could be placed, and which carried on the manufacture of ardent spirits on a very extensive scale. Being in their immediate neighborhood, together with the ready facility of procuring it, which could be done by giving corn in exchange when they had no money to purchase with, necessarily subjected them to the direful effects of intemperance more than either of the other two tribes of this agency; but I am happy to be enabled to inform you that they drink much less than formerly. I find powerful auxiliaries, in my efforts to make the Senecas a sober people, in the persons of their two chiefs, who use their influence with the people in inducing them not to drink whiskey. The Senecas have also suffered greatly during the past spring and summer from the overflows of the watercourses of their coun-

try. The Cowskin and Grand rivers were higher than they were ever before known to be, carrying off with their rapid currents their stocks, fencing, &c. But, notwithstanding the losses sustained by the floods and almost constant rains during the cropping season, they have, with the assistance of the income of their mills, if kept in operation, an abundance for next year's consumption. The mills were much damaged by the freshets last spring—so much so, that I am of the opinion they will not be of any service to them without repairs six months longer. The same treaty which provided for the building of these mills also provides for their being kept in operation by the Government; but, being fully aware of the incalculable benefits these people derive from their mills, I have advised them to appropriate a portion of their annuity (which they can easily do) to repair them, so as to be kept in successful operation, which they have consented to do. The three tribes of this agency stand well affected to each other, with all the neighboring tribes, as well as with the people of the United States, and would, I believe, if left alone by unprincipled white men, who are constantly intriguing with them for sinister designs, remain so, and would give the agent but little trouble. They have a most beautiful and valuable country, and ought to be, as I believe they are, a contented people, and, were it not for the continued efforts of whiskey dealers and intriguers to draw them from the path of morality and virtue, would soon become a moral, virtuous, enlightened, happy, and a Christian people.

I would most respectfully suggest an alteration of, or a supplement to, the existing laws in relation to the introduction of whiskey into the Indian country—they are defective. Whiskey dealers are generally men as much in want of money or property as they are of moral character. What, then, do they care for a fine of $300, or even of a larger amount? They know that nothing can be made by a prosecution; and they therefore, in some instances, boldly declare that they will traffic in the article. Make offences of that character punishable by imprisonment as well as subjecting them to a heavy fine, and I am well convinced that your agent will be enabled, in a great degree, to carry out the benevolent designs of our Government, in its laudable efforts to civilize and enlighten the race of the red man. I hope and trust that, if I have not gone sufficiently into details respecting the affairs of this agency, it will be overlooked, as I have recently had a long and severe attack of sickness, from which I am but very slowly recovering, and am so feeble and weak, even at this time, as to make it very painful to me to write at all.

Accompanying this will be found the reports of the various mechanics employed in this agency.

All of which is most respectfully submitted.

With high regard and esteem, your very obedient servant,

B. B. R. BARKER.

Hon. T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs, Washington City, D. C.

(80.)

SEMINOLE AGENCY, *August* 26, 1844.

SIR: I have the honor of laying before you the annual report relative to the subjects of this sub-agency.

The delegation that visited Washington in May last represented to the Commissioner the situation of those of their tribe residing in the Cherokee nation; it only remains for me to state, in regard to those, that, on the return of said delegation, they found their people encamped on the prairies in the neighborhood of Fort Gibson, destitute of subsistence; the rise of the waters of the Arkansas and Grand rivers had driven them from their homes, with the loss of all they had, not only destroying the crop in the ground, but sweeping off their old corn in the cribs.

The number of sufferers by this calamity that are left entirely destitute are two hundred and ninety-five; they represented to me they had been subsisting on berries and what they could obtain by begging. In view of their situation, I made a requisition on Colonel Mason, commandant at Fort Gibson, for half rations for eighteen days, as a temporary relief; and, to the credit of his feelings for their suffering situation, he complied promptly, which I trust will meet the cordial approbation of the department.

The situation of those people requires the prompt attention and action of the Government. I would recommend removing them to the south side of Arkansas, into the Creek country, and furnishing them with rations until the commissioners find a location for them.

The Seminoles living on the Deep fork, Elk creek, and Little river, in the Creek nation, have large crops of corn, potatoes, and rice, on hand, and, from present appearances, they will have a fair average crop; in which event, they will have a large surplus. They likewise raise melons, pumpkins, and beans—the latter to considerable extent.

They have increased their stock of horses, cattle, and hogs; and all about them evinces that they see the necessity of throwing themselves on their own resources, for enabling them to procure the necessaries of life.

The great cause of dissatisfaction to the Seminoles is, that they have no country they can call their own. This has a tendency to depress their feelings, and is a continual source of uneasiness; and, until removed, it need not be expected they will become content.

They utterly repudiate the idea of becoming a constituent part of the Creek nation, or submitting to the Creek laws in the remotest degree; and, in view of circumstances that have been recently developed, it is not surprising this should be the case; and I am fully convinced it would be highly impolitic and improper that it should take place, or that the Government should make any attempt to make them a constituent part of the Creek nation.

On my arrival among those people, and for a year or more subsequent, all my predilections were in favor of their becoming a constituent part of the Creek nation, and all my efforts were directed in endeavoring to bring about that result.

Without going into any detail of the causes that have produced a change in my views, suffice it to say, that causes do exist, of such a character as would convince any man, capable of connecting two ideas, that the result would be similar to that which took place in a neighboring nation, by bringing into collision two parties that had no community of interest or feeling, nor never can have.

I have no hesitation in saying, the further apart those two people are, the better for both.

In my letter of the 13th instant I introduced to your notice a section of country called the neutral ground, belonging to Government, west of the

Cherokee nation, which (as has been represented) would be an eligible location for the Seminoles; and I see by the map it lies contiguous to the Senecas and Shawnees, and by locating the Seminoles there they might all be thrown into one agency.

Being well acquainted with the feelings and views of both parties in regard to the Seminoles locating in any portion of the Creek country, and, in my opinion, of the impracticability of the commissioners being able to make any arrangement that will be satisfactory to both parties, is the reason why I have introduced this subject into this report. I have read and heard much of the generosity, magnanimity, and nobleness of the Indian character; this (to some extent) may all be well enough in their natural state, before their intercourse with the whites; but, so far as my observation has extended, those are qualities that do not exist, or have a very limited operation among those who have made the greatest advances toward civilization, or whose location admitted of free intercourse with the whites. Under these circumstances, I have uniformly found selfishness absorbs every generous, magnanimous, and noble emanation of the soul.

Among the poor, neglected, and despised Seminoles, there is as much honor and integrity as among any other tribe, though they may be far in advance of them in the habits of civilized life; and to their credit it can be said, that the intercourse of the sexes is confined to the connubial state. No cases of infidelity in this respect occur among them; they have great affection for their children, pay much deference to their wives, and when at home in their families appear to appreciate the enjoyments of the domestic circle. I admit, however, with all their good qualities, they have many bad ones; but if left to themselves, and not instigated by bad white men, they would have much fewer of these. They are extremely indolent, though (in view of their recent removal from a congenial climate, where the spontaneous productions of the soil supplied them with nearly all their wants, so that little exertion was required on their part) it is not a matter of surprise; under similar circumstances, the same result would have attended the whites. Many of them, however, have become sensible of the change of circumstances, and that exertion is necessary on their part to enable them to obtain the necessaries of life, and are applying themselves accordingly; and no doubt this eventually will be the case with most of them; and it would tend to produce this result, if they had a country they could call their own.

On the 31st ultimo, the whole tribe met in council, which circumstance was embraced to obtain their numbers. On each band or town making their returns, the result was, three thousand one hundred and thirty-six, (3,136,) exclusive of negroes. Four hundred of them belonged to the Appalachicola band, E-con-chattimicco, their chief; and one hundred and fourteen formerly belonged to Blunt and Davy's bands, Co-ah-thlack-co, their chief; the balance Seminoles proper.

The school under the charge of John D. Bemo, a very promising young Seminole, went into operation the middle of March last. On its first opening, there were forty children in attendance; they came under the impression that they would be found their meals. Finding this was not the fact, the numbers were reduced to fifteen, at which it has remained stationary. Accompanying this will be found the school report.

John D. Bemo's course has fully sustained the good opinion his friends had formed of him; and no doubt, if he continues faithful, he will be

instrumental in dispensing much good to his people. He preaches regularly once, and frequently twice a week, to full houses; his congregation are principally blacks, though several Seminoles have joined the church since he came among them, and a marked change has taken place in the manners and habits of the Indians immediately in the neighborhood of the school, which evinces that he has exercised a salutary influence over them.

Since my arrival in the Indian country, I have endeavored to become conversant with the Indian character, and, so far as I have succeeded, the conviction on my mind is, that it is morally impossible to effect (to any extent) any change in the habits or manners of the adult Indian; and the only possible way by which any permanent good could be done would be to take hold of the rising generation, establish schools among them based upon proper principles, (for my views of which I refer you to the Fort Coffee establishment,) and place the children not only under competent teachers, but those who have been regularly educated for the ministry, and who are willing to devote their time, in the absence of all selfish views, and to do good for its own sake. Those are the men, and those only, that will be likely to do good to the poor Indian; and, inasmuch as example preaches louder than precept, the example of such men would have a powerful influence; and I assure you, so far as my observation has extended, the example heretofore set, instead of exercising a salutary influence, and producing a healthy and moral atmosphere, has had a tendency to produce very deleterious and pernicious effects on the minds of the Indians.

The Choctaws (much to their credit, and to the honor of those who have aided them in the good work) are the pioneers in establishing a permanent system of education for their people in their own country; and though the Seminoles have not the means to follow after to the same extent, yet they might go to the extent of their means, and by a proper application of the funds now due them for educational purposes, together with those becoming due annually, I have no doubt arrangements might be made (in fact I know it) with the missionary boards, not only to furnish teachers and sustain them, but supply funds in addition to the above, sufficient to educate and board all the Seminole youth of a proper age to receive instruction. Much might be said on this subject, but, being somewhat acquainted with causes and effects, I deem it unnecessary.

The introduction of whiskey into the Indian country has increased and continues to increase to an alarming extent. I respectfully refer you to my last annual report on this subject, for my views as to the only means which, in my opinion, can be adopted to put a stop to this pernicious traffic.

The blacksmith has been regularly engaged on ploughs, axes, and hoes, together with repairing guns and gun locks, and gives general satisfaction to the Indians.

The following persons are employed by this sub-agency:

John D. Bemo, teacher, Daniel P. Logan, blacksmith, at $600 per annum.

Isaac Patterson, striker, $240 per annum.

Abraham, interpreter, $300 per annum.

All which is respectfully submitted.

Very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

THOMAS L. JUDGE,
Sub-Agent Seminole Indians.

Major WILLIAM ARMSTRONG,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, W. Territory.

(81.)

OFFICE OF INDIAN AFFAIRS,
Detroit, October 10, 1844.

SIR: By my last annual report you were informed of the gratifying evidence exhibited by the Ottowas and Chippewas of this superintendency, that the benevolent efforts of the department had produced most happy results among them; and it will no doubt afford you pleasure now to learn, that no untoward circumstance has since occurred to mar the cheering hope of ultimate success. Most of the bands are rapidly improving their condition, and evince great anxiety to adopt the manners and customs of the whites, and participate in our social and political advantages. The accompanying memorial of the chiefs to the President of the United States sets forth the earnest desire of both these tribes to obtain the boon of citizenship, and I sincerely hope that their prayer may be taken into favorable consideration; for nearly half their number stand so high in the scale of moral and social virtues as would render them worthy and valuable members of any community, and the passage of an act to admit to citizenship even such of them as might be deemed sufficiently advanced in civilization, &c., to render their being incorporated with us safe and advisable, would no doubt greatly stimulate them to stronger efforts for self-improvement. A majority of them manifest a growing disposition to have their children educated and instructed in the arts of civilized life; and a considerable number have entirely abandoned the use of ardent spirits. At the annual payments, we have endeavored to induce the whites to desist from selling or giving liquor; but this season, at the Mackinac payment, no influence was exercised over them with regard to it. I merely urged the Indians themselves to refrain, and thus show that they had acquired the mastery over this ruinous and degrading propensity. The pleasing result was, that not over fifty of their whole number (say 3,000) yielded to the temptation; still they will need every shield with which they can be encircled by the Government, to protect them against the machinations of the whiskey dealer. The bands which have remained in Michigan of the Swan Creek and Black River Chippewas are rapidly emerging from their late degraded condition: they have become industrious and economical. Not one of the principal band (which consists of upwards of 100) makes any use of intoxicating drink; nearly all the adults have become professors of religion, and are under the care of the Methodist mission, which has been the means of bringing about these happy results. The other missions and schools within this superintendency are also laboring successfully, and our country at large owes these devoted men a heavy debt of gratitude. I have been several times solicited by these Indians to present to the department the serious loss they have sustained in consequence of the *unreasonable delay* of the General Land Office in disposing of the district ceded to the United States by the treaty of May, 1836. They allege, that, if the lands had been sold according to the terms of the treaty, ("as soon as practicable,") they would have yielded a large surplus over the advances made to them by the Government, &c. However true this may be, I know of no relief the department can afford them, without the interposition of Congress. In compliance with your instructions, I proceeded to the Lake Superior country on the 18th July last, in order to settle the difficulties which had been created with the Indians in relation to the cession of Isle Royale

by the treaty of 1842; and I have the pleasure to report, that on giving full and free explanations, and exhibiting the map which had been made and used at the treaty, and on which the ceded country had been encircled with a broad yellow line, the Indians most honorably, and with perfect unanimity, yielded their assent, and stated that they had been induced by the whites to set up the claim of $60,000, which they thought there would be no harm in trying to get, *as their great father is rich.* I enclosed to you, in my respects of the 21st September, a compact of renewed cession, which I deemed it best to procure, so as to render nugatory all future pretension or evil design, whether of red man or white. The affairs of that agency have, for some years past, been in a very loose and unsatisfactory condition; but I trust that Mr. Hays, who seems both active and intelligent, will bring all things into harmony and good order. By his decision and energy, he has already done much to check the whiskey traffic in that region. He succeeded, during the summer, in taking and destroying 14 or 15 barrels of ardent spirits; and if the department will place, say $300, at his disposal next spring, to enable him to guard the few avenues by which liquor can be introduced, I have no doubt of his being able to accomplish this desirable and humane object. But greater effort will be required to check the evil on and near the borders of the Mississippi. That country has been purchased as high as Crow Wing river, without any treaty restriction in regard to Indian trade and intercourse. The laws of the Territory alone can reach the case, which renders the efforts of the Government officers of little avail; for these inhuman whiskey dealers settle themselves near the line of the ceded territory, where they have the legal right of keeping any quantity of liquor they may see fit, and thence they send and deal it out clandestinely, so that no positive proof can be obtained against them; and thus they laugh at and defy both troops and Indian agents. In view of these evils, I would respectfully suggest that the department or President address a communication to the Governors of Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri, and Arkansas, asking their aid and influence to obviate these difficulties, by applying to their respective Legislatures for the passage of an act prohibiting the introduction of *intoxicating* liquors in closer proximity to the Indians than the white settlements, declaring its being so found *prima facia* evidence of intention to dispose of it to the Indians, and rendering it liable to seizure or being destroyed by any Indian or person employed by the State, Territory, or United States. Such an act would go far toward breaking up this infamous traffic; and is its procurement not called for both by humanity and sound policy?

Herewith I enclose the following returns and reports, and will forward the residue as soon as received. These documents will show the condition of the schools, missions, farming and mechanic departments; and I have great satisfaction in stating that nothing has come to my knowledge to detract from the favorable opinion I expressed of the conduct of these incumbents in my last annual report. Their respective duties are performed with zeal and intelligence, although their reports are not as full or punctually rendered as might be desirable, which may be attributable to my long absence in Lake Superior; for when at home I always urge them in advance on this head.

No. 1. Rt. Rev. Bishop Lefevre's report of Roman missions and schools under his direction

No. 2. Rev. Peter Dougherty's report of Presbyterian mission and school at Grand Traverse bay.

No. 3. Rev. George N. Smith's report of Congregational mission and school at Old Wing colony, Black river of Lake Michigan.

No. 4. Rev. L. Slater's report of Baptist mission and school at Ottowa colony.

No. 5. Returns of William M. Belote, carpenter at Mickanac for three quarters.

No. 6. Returns of James Stevens, blacksmith at Mickanac.

No. 7. Returns of farmers at Grand Traverse bay.

No. 8. Returns of Robert Campbell, carpenter at Grand Traverse.

No. 9. Returns of John Campbell, blacksmith at Grand Traverse.

No. 10. Returns of Joel Wheeler, armorer at Thorn Apple.

No. 11. Returns of Stephen Fairbanks, farmer for Ottowa and Griswold colonies.

No. 12. Returns of O. D. Goodrich, farmer at Old Wing colony.

No. 13. Returns of Sault Ste. Marie sub-agency blacksmith, (at Sault Ste. Marie.)

No. 14. Returns of Sault Ste. Marie blacksmith at the Ance Quiwienon, Lake Superior.

No. 15. Returns of Sault Ste. Marie farmer at the Ance Quiwienon, Lake Superior.

No. 16. Returns of Sault Ste. Marie carpenter at the Ance Quiwienon, Lake Superior.

* * * * * * *

I am, respectfully, sir, your obedient servant,

ROBERT STUART,

Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

T. HARTLEY CRAWFORD, Esq.,

Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

To the President of the United States of America: this petition of his children, the Ottowas and Chippewas of Michigan, respectfully showeth:

FATHER: At the last session of the Legislature of the State of Michigan, the chiefs and headmen of our brethren the Ottowas of Arbre Croche presented a petition praying our brothers of the Legislature to take such steps as to them might seem proper, to secure to those Ottowas a permanent location in the land of their birth, and ultimately the rights and privileges of American citizens.

To the prayer of that petition the Legislature responded by unanimously instructing their Senators and requesting their representatives in Congress to exert their influence in obtaining for the Ottowas the rights and privileges for which they prayed.

This petition, as we have been informed, was forwarded by the Governor, together with the resolution of the Legislature, to the Senators and Representatives of the State in Congress.

We have been informed by our father, the superintendent of our affairs, that our brethren in Congress were prevented, by the exigency of other and previous applications, from attending to our wishes at the last session.

We therefore, the Ottowas, who before petitioned, and we, the Chippewas, who now join with them in the prayer, do earnestly entreat you, our great father, to present our wishes to our brethren the Senators and Representatives of the United States.

We are, comparatively, few in number, and, with our ameliorated habits, can subsist, with proper industry, upon a small portion of the national domain.

Many of us have built ourselves houses in imitation of the white men, and are engaged in the cultivation of the soil.

We are allied, also, by the rite of marriage and by consanguinity, to many of the citizens of this State.

The country we occupy, from the severity of its climate, is not well adapted to the advanced culture of the white men, whilst it is all-sufficient for our moderate wants, and will afford us the means of livelihood.

We desire earnestly to become good citizens, and to live in friendship with our brethren the white men, to die on the soil where we have always lived, and to leave it as an inheritance to our children.

We entreat you, then, our father, to make these our wishes known to our brethren in Congress, and to join your influence in our humble efforts to accomplish them.

And that the Great Spirit may smile upon you, our father, and our native land, your children will ever pray.

[Signed by sixty-one Indians.]

(82.)

Office Sub-Agency for Saginaw,
Detroit, October 30, 1844.

Sir: Were it not that established usage would seem to require at my hands a report of the affairs and condition of the Chippewa tribe of Indians within my agency, I would content myself with the knowledge of the fact that you are as conversant with the general character of their condition as I am myself.

I have recently returned from Saginaw, where I made (on the 17th instant) the annual payment required by treaties with that tribe, on which occasion, I also distributed amongst them the stipulated amount of provisions, also ten milch cows, three oxen, and tools and implements of agriculture. The tribe is divided into nine bands, properly speaking, (at the head of each is a chief,) but, in fact, ten distinct divisions, (one of the bands having divided and selected distinct and different locations,) to each of which I gave one cow. The oxen were disposed of by me so as to place in the hands of each band (with those previously held) a yoke of oxen, with one exception. In the distribution of the tools, farming implements, and traps, I was governed altogether by the habits and requirements of the respective bands. It is truly gratifying to behold the rapid strides these heretofore benighted children of the forest are making towards habits of civilization, agricultural pursuits, and temperance. On the morning preceding the payment, I called the chiefs together in council, and, as is customary, they all in turn had the first "talk." Their first speaker consumed

about thirty minutes, the entire of which was occupied in descanting upon the influence of religion, and its handmaid temperance, and the wonderful revolution produced thereby in the habits and condition of their tribe. The second speaker occupied nearly as long. The burden of his theme was the great importance and necessity of education, and, during his remarks, he referred to that provision of the treaty of 14th January, 1837, which stipulates that "$10,000 should be set apart for education, the interest thereof to be applied annually to that object, commencing with the year 1840," (which up to this time has not been available.) Here permit me to offer a few remarks on this all-important feature of their case; and I know not how I can better do so than by extracting so much of my letter to you of 7th March last as is applicable.

"When we consider the fact that this tribe has declined all efforts made to obtain their consent to removal, and utterly refused to embrace a stipulation to that effect in the treaty referred to, and also that many of them have purchased lands, and become, to some extent, identified with the agricultural interests of the section of country which they inhabit, there can be no room for doubt as to the true policy as well as duty of the Government in this particular. From all the information which observance and strict inquiry have led to, I am persuaded that they are generally predisposed to habits of civilization, and, I have no doubt, if teachers of good moral and religious character (to the extent that their fund, if available, would admit of) were placed amongst them, a benefit would be derived, compared with which their entire annuity would be but as a grain of sand on the sea shore. Let the Indian youth be educated, and the principles of a sound morality inculcated, and our country would, in a short time for such an accomplishment, witness the gratifying spectacle of a tribe of ruthless savages yielding to the irresistible march of civilization. Knowing, as I do, the deep interest which you take in subjects of the character now involved, I deem it unnecessary to offer arguments in support of a proposition so self-evident, embracing principles which I doubt not it is only necessary to call your attention to, in order to secure your co-operation and interposition in behalf of the poor, degraded, and benighted Chippewa."

The subjects to which I have alluded, together with their wants for the purposes of agriculture and hunting, formed the substance of all their speeches. Take it all in all, it was a truly interesting occasion, and well calculated to improve as well as gladden the heart of the philanthropist. To hear the red man of the forest descanting on the blessings and urging the observance of religious and moral duties, might well have crimsoned the cheek of many a pale-faced brother.

Each band have more or less land which they have purchased, and which they in part cultivate. And here let me observe, that their purchases are chiefly Government lands, and in the remote parts of the country, so well suited to their habits, and yet so objectionable to the white settlers. The last year the overseer of farming had some 112 acres ploughed for them, independent of that which they ploughed themselves, and the coming year they will greatly increase their exertions in this department; and it shall be my purpose, so long as I have any thing to do with them, to cherish and encourage them, by the aid of all the means at my disposal, in this laudable pursuit. It is but just that I should add, in this determination I have the entire co-operation and zealous efforts of the overseer of that department of my agency.

The establishment of the blacksmith's shop is well and efficiently represented in the present incumbents, and all their time faithfully devoted to the service and interest of the Indians. A desire was expressed on the part of the chiefs that this establishment should be removed from where it now is, to Saginaw City, as a matter of great convenience; to which I assented. They have the necessary supply of iron and steel furnished for the coming year; so that every branch of this department is well provided and is in a good condition. The Indians are generally well and comfortably clad, and, as far as I could ascertain, are well satisfied with the care and treatment they receive from the Government.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

AND. T. McREYNOLDS.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs for Michigan.

(83.)

SAULT STE. MARIE, *September* 30, 1844.

SIR: There has been some change in the condition of the Indians in this sub-agency since my last report. Instances of intoxication are not so frequent. The proceeds from their hunts have been, with few exceptions, applied to the payment of their debts to the traders for articles of sustenance and clothing. Those who were engaged in fishing have done better this season than for several previous ones, owing to the demand for fish. They have been employed more in providing for themselves necessaries of life, and have passed the winter under fewer privations. They manifest a greater disposition to live in houses than heretofore. Their crops of potatoes are greater than they were last year. Sickness has not been so prevalent among them. In the Sault bands the births during the year have been six boys and three girls; deaths, two girls, two boys, and three adults. Among the bands under the Lapointe treaty, I have not been able to ascertain the increase or decrease.

Not more than two or three families have visited the British present ground this season. There were none from the upper region. It is probable that very few will frequent that place in future. None would go, could the annuities under the treaty of 1836 be paid in the early part of August; and those already made under the Lapointe treaty have so far prevented the Indians at and above the Ance from coming down, with the view of getting presents from the British Government.

There are at present two mission schools at the Sault—the Baptist, under the direction of Rev. Abel Bingham; and the Methodist, under the superintendence of Rev. William H. Brockway. The former presents no material change since the last report. The latter has about the same number of scholars it had last year; they are well fed and clothed, have been regularly taught, and a constant attention paid to their morals.

The reports relative to each are herewith. There are two mission schools at the Ance Quiwewenon—one under the superintendence of Rev. W. H. Brockway, reported to have thirty scholars, viz: sixteen males and fourteen females. In the other, under Rev. F. Barago, sixty scholars are

said to be instructed. This school is opposite to the Methodist mission, on the western side of the Ance bay.

Reports and returns from the carpenter, blacksmith, and farmer, have not yet come to hand. The daily expectation of getting their returns has prevented an earlier transmission of my report. These persons reached the Ance too late last year to do little more than prepare habitations for themselves and their families.

The farmer took with him a yoke of oxen, and as much corn and oats as were deemed sufficient to keep them during the winter; and such farming implements as were necessary to commence his operations were sent on to him in October last. He states that fifty acres of land have been enclosed, twelve of which are under cultivation.

Very respectfully,
JAMES ORD.

Robert Stuart, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit, Michigan.

(84.)

Office Indian Agency, Mackinac, *April* 22, 1844.

Sir: On Saturday last, I returned from my visit to the station of Grand Traverse bay, bringing the vouchers and reports for the last quarter, which I have the honor, herewith, to enclose to you.

Every thing at that station appears *peaceable and prosperous.* In the farming department more help is wanted, and, I am happy to learn, since my return to Mackinac, that a farmer had left for the station the morning of the day that I returned. The chief, Kosa, asks for a situation for his son, (who appears to be a steady, active, *ambitious*, and *ingenious* young man,) as striker in the blacksmith's shop. I asked him if he was willing to have him go Mackinac? He said *not.* He was afraid he would be *too much exposed to temptation;* and asked if Jackson Muccatapenace could not be sent to Mackinac, and make a place at once for his son at home? I told him I would communicate to you his suggestion.

It being inconvenient for me, on several accounts, to leave home at this time, I have postponed my intended visit to Detroit for the present.

I remain, with much regard, sir, your obedient servant,
JUSTIN RICE,
Acting Agent pro tem.

Robert Stuart, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs, Detroit.

(85.)

Office Indian Agency, Mackinac, *July* 22, 1844.

Sir: Enclosed, herewith, I have the honor to forward you the reports of the blacksmith, carpenter, and farmer, at the station of Grand Traverse bay, for the second quarter of 1844.

These reports speak well, I think, of the industry and diligence of the mechanics and farmers in the discharge of the *special duties* of their appointments, and also of a disposition to make themselves *generally useful* to the Indians.

Before I left Mr. Stuart, he directed me to instruct you to require of Mr. Newbold to furnish a *good yoke* of *working oxen*, for the farming department at Grand Traverse bay. He said the bids or contracts were so made, that you could require him to furnish the oxen if they are needed at the station. They are much in want of them, and I hope there will be no mistake in his furnishing a good yoke of *well-broken* working oxen, not too old nor unruly.

I am, sir, very truly, your obedient servant,

JUSTIN RICE,
Acting Agent pro tem.

WILLIAM S. LEE, Esq.,
Office Indian Affairs, Detroit.

(86.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *January* 2, 1844.

SIR: Annexed are the returns of work done by me at this place for this quarter. The amount of work done by me while at Sault Ste. Marie was rendered to Mr. Ord, up to October 9th, agreeably to the instructions that I received. I left Sault Ste. Marie the 12th of October, and arrived at Mackinac the 15th. Finding that I should not get an opportunity to come to this place very soon, I concluded to go directly down to Detroit; Mr. Stuart having given me his consent, while he was at the Sault, for so doing. I returned to Mackinac the 25th, and afterwards availed myself of the first opportunity to come to this place, and arrived here the 4th of November. I find that the Indians here have put up six new houses during my absence, and there are five more that have their timber cut, and intend to put up their houses in the course of the winter or next spring. I think they manifest much more of a disposition to help and improve themselves, and take more pains to make their houses look neat and respectable. They had bought themselves a whipsaw last summer, and have sawed some lumber. One of the saws that was sent to me I have sent to Middle village, about seven miles from this place, and the other is retained at this place. I have been much put back in my work, on account of not having a good shop to work in, but I have now got the shop so that it is very comfortable. I also enclose you the report of the blacksmith shop, which I presume you will find all correct.

Yours, very respectfully,

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

DR. JUSTIN RICE,
Acting Indian Agent.

(87.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *April* 1, 1844.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions to me, I shall send an account of the amount of work which has been done by me during the last quarter. My time during the winter was mostly employed in teaming. According to the account kept for the time, I have made 147 loads of fire wood for Indians, 34 loads for making coal, 23 pieces of timber and saw logs, 16 troughs for holding sap, (which had to be hauled the distance of from one to three miles,) one day cutting coal wood, nine days at different times cutting wood at sugar camps for the Indian women, who had got out of wood, and whose husbands had been under the necessity of leaving them to go to their spring hunts. I have been able to do nearly all the work that I have been called on for, with the exception of some timber for building, which they were anxious to get done, but I did not think it prudent to work the cattle, as they were short of feed, and I did not want to get them too weak. I need the help of an assistant very much, to do the spring work; but, as it is, I shall endeavor to do to the best of my knowledge and power.

Yours, &c., HENRY DAVENPORT.

DR. JUSTIN RICE,
Acting Indian Agent.

(88.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *June* 30, 1844.

SIR: Herewith, accompanying, you will receive my report of work in the shop for the last quarter. In addition to the work which has been reported quarterly during the past year, I have built one coal house, repaired the dwelling house by raising it four logs higher, putting new beams, hewing it down outside, and in lathing and plastering it, putting a window, and laying floor in the shop, repairing cart wheel for department, making two windows, one cherry table for Koosay, and helping him to lath and plaster his house, making six coffins, drawing out teeth for twelve different persons, bleeding thirteen times, (to do some of it, I had to go to the next village, ten miles) altering three horses, making one window for school-house, plastering three days at the church, one day hewing timber, one day laying floor, one day helping whitewash, making sheet-iron stove, making one ox sled, helping to burn lime. I make these statements to show you that my time is not altogether unemployed when I am not at work in the shop, and that it is my endeavor to be generally useful to the Indians.

I have done work in the shop for Mr. Johnson to the amount of $12 37, and for Mr. Dougherty (which he insisted on paying for, as it was for his individual benefit, apart from the mission) to the amount of $3 75. Out of this, I have applied $6 for lumber to repair the house; 50 cents for glass for house; $3 50 for cedar bark to cover coal house. There is still in my hands $5 62. It is my intention to build a new shop if I have time, as the old one is rather small, and going to decay. If you have no objections, I shall use the balance in my hands towards getting nails, glass, &c.

Yours, respectfully,

JOHN CAMPBELL.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Superintendent Indian Affairs.

(89.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *June* 30, 1844.

SIR: Above is a report of work done by me for the last quarter. I have made it more an object to instruct and assist them in doing their own work, when they could do it; and of course some of my time is spent in preparing their work, and putting tools in order for them. I have two benches in the shop, and tools for them to work with. I bought a turning lathe last fall, and have put it up in one part of the shop, and intend to instruct them in making bedsteads, chairs, and tables, of which they stand much in need. I have been employed lately in working at a large boat, for the use of the department, the mission, and such of the Indians as choose to help to build it. Such a thing has been much needed here, for getting timber, hay, and stone, from the other side of the bay, getting lumber, and bringing home such provisions as they may receive at the payment, and prevent their loitering about Mackinac so long. Mr. Dougherty has offered to furnish materials, such as sails, rigging, &c., for it, and assist them all he can.

I think the progress they have made in making improvements is as great as can be expected, considering the advantages they enjoy. There have been ten new buildings put up during the past year, and five more are now in progress, some of which are to be framed buildings. I think there is a spirit of emulation aroused among them that leads them to take a great deal of pains to make their houses look neat and comfortable, and strive to see who will have the best. The chief, Ah-go-sa, in particular, has made additions and improvements to his house and premises, and appears to set an example of industry, perseverance, and temperance, before his people, which is truly commendable. I am sorry I cannot say as much for the old chief, Ske-va-gon-u-bee. Though the old man is not directly hostile to improvements, yet he does very little to encourage it, and, indeed, is much behind some of his own band. I endeavored to prevail on the old man to build himself a better house last fall, and told him I would help him all I could to build a good house. He said he would, but he has not done any thing about it at all, and indeed manifests very little desire to improve himself, and I think is losing the confidence of the Indians.

In regard to the temperance cause among them, I regret to say there is quite a number who still follow their old habits of drinking whenever it is brought in their way and they can get it, and some of those who pledged themselves to abstain have since indulged in some measure; still, I think, there is good encouragement for renewed exertion among them. To the credit of those who trade among them here, I would say that there has been no liquor sold to the Indians by them, that I know of; indeed, in doing so, they do but consult the permanent interest of their trade, as well as the welfare of the Indians. There was some liquor brought here (as near as I can learn) by Mr. Birchard, of Detroit, and sold to them last spring, while he was on a trading tour around the shore. I understand that their plea was, that they brought it in self-defence, to be sold in case the other parties had any. But it appears that they were in advance of the other party, and sold it before the other party came up. It is to be deplored that men who should know better cannot be satisfied with carrying on a legitimate trade with the Indians, or, at least, furnishing them with what will be useful to them, in exchange for what little they have to traffic. Such doings

are very much to the disadvantage of those who trade with them during the winter, and expect to get their credits in the spring from those who owe them. There have been two instances of *Indians* bringing liquor to distribute among them; one, by an Indian who brought it from Grand river, and the other by an Indian who formerly lived here, but left this place last year and came back this spring, professedly with the object of getting corn to plant, and left the liquor as he went away. I am informed that he was encouraged to do it by the old chief; and I know that he participated in the frolic with the liquor. I understand that the Indian intends to come again in the fall, on the same errand. I would suggest that some penalty should be attached for such conduct in the Indians, to prevent them from being made tools of by those who do not choose to take the responsibility of distributing it themselves. The names of the above-mentioned individuals can be forwarded to you, if you choose to know them.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

(90.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *June* 30, 1844.

SIR: I herewith send you a statement of the amount of work done by the farming department at this station. Owing to delays, for want of an opportunity, I did not reach this place, to enter upon my duties, till after the commencement of the quarter, on the 22d of April. There have been eleven loads of wood drawn for the coal pit; forty loads of corn and potatoes for the Indians to and from their fields; nine loads of rails, two hundred and eleven logs for building and sawing into lumber; ploughing twenty acres and a half for Indians; ploughing ten acres for our own use; nine days' time spent in splitting rails, making fence, and threshing out oats; ten days spent in hoeing corn and potatoes. We have sowed five acres and a half of oats, and seeded three acres to clover and timothy; planted three acres in corn, and one acre and a half in potatoes and peas. We have been under the necessity of changing work, in order to get the mission cattle, to get along with our work, as our own were unable to do all the work that was called for; and, having no pasture enclosed to keep them in, and no fodder to feed them, much of our time was unavoidably spent in looking for the cattle in the woods. We shall endeavor to remedy that another year. Our prospects of getting a supply of good hay are not very promising. There is a meadow about ten miles from this place, and about a mile from the shore, where some hay was got last year; but there is no road to it for a team, and, I understand, they had to carry the hay out to the shore on their backs. We have been down to it once, with the intention to burn the old grass, and clear up and enlarge the meadow; but there was so much water, that we did not succeed very well. We propose to go again in a few days, to see a place on the other side of the bay, where the Indians tell me there is a very good place to get hay. We shall not depend, however, altogether on getting hay, as I think we shall have a pretty fair supply of fodder here, without getting much hay.

Mr. Davenport has delivered me a list of tools, &c., belonging to the department, most of which are, however, worn out, and of very little account. The scythes and cradle that were sent on last fall for the use of the department I found, on unpacking them, to be utterly worthless, and I shall be under the necessity of sending them back by the first opportunity, as they will be of no use to us. It appears that the three scythes were bound together with a wisp of hay, and the former farmer did not examine them when he receipted for them last fall. You will perceive that the edges of two of them are broken, and the back of the other is split, so that it would not stand any time at all. I am surprised that the contractor should have taken the pains to palm off such articles on the department. You will perceive, by examining the cradle scythe on the edge, that the fracture in it was rubbed over with something, to prevent it from being noticed. I wish you would send to me good articles as soon as possible, as we shall need them very soon. I would wish you to have a little pains taken to have a scythe to fit the cradle. We have had no trouble in getting along with the Indians; many of them manifest a disposition to improve themselves, and we have endeavored to instruct them in our way of cultivating the land, the advantages of which they cannot fail to perceive. They cultivate patches of land, varying from one to five acres or more each; and I should judge there were some one hundred and fifty acres under cultivation among them here, besides what there is at the village above. The land is heavy timbered, and their way of operating is to cut down the timber one year, and the next year trim off the limbs, and plant their corn and potatoes among the trunks of the trees, as they lie on the ground; and as soon as the ground grows up with grass, and becomes difficult to dig, they abandon it, and cut down other fields. They generally plant in the same hill from year to year. Much space is of course taken up by the logs lying on the ground. We have got some of them to cut and burn up the logs, and clear the land, so that it could be ploughed, and have sowed some two acres and a half of oats, which is all the grain we could spare for seed. They have a good many horses among them; but they have not brought them to work much. I shall endeavor to get them to break in some of their horses to work, so that they can depend more on their own resources to plough and cultivate their land. There have been ten new fields opened this spring, in addition to what there was before, mostly by persons recently come into the place. Most of the land about here is of a very good quality, and they would have no difficulty, if they managed properly, in procuring a comfortable living by cultivating the soil. The crops look remarkably fine this season thus far; and it is to be hoped that it will encourage them to more industry in cultivating, so that they will not have to depend so much on their hunts for a living.

I am yours, respectfully,

WALTER DRAKE, *Farmer.*

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent Indian Affairs.

(91.)

GRAND TRAVERSE BAY, *September* 30, 1844.

SIR: The time has come for me to report the doings of the farming department at this place for the third quarter of 1844. There have been three hundred and eighteen logs drawn for the Indians to build with; thirty-five loads drawn to and from their fields; some corn, and some bark to cover their houses with; two canoes hauled from the woods; we have cut about three acres of oats, and secured them for our own use, for food to the cattle, and for seed. We have spent about three weeks in looking up hay and cutting it. It has been with difficulty that we have obtained any, but I have succeeded in getting about four tons. As I expected to have two yoke of cattle to winter this season, I have endeavored to secure food. We had to go fifteen miles to cut some of our hay, as I could not find any good hay nearer, and we shall have to carry it half a mile to the shore. I shall have some corn to feed to the cattle. So I think, with the hay, and corn, and oats, I shall be able to winter the oxen well. The house in which we live was too small for two families; we have been under the necessity of building an addition to it; we have made an addition of twelve by twenty-one feet; we have had to draw logs and saw lumber, as there was no lumber to be bought; we have hired some help about sawing; we have got it enclosed; as we have no floors in it, to make it comfortable, we should be glad if you could send us a few boards; as the Indian work is pressing, we shall have no time to saw any.

As our oxen have not been able to do our harvest work, we have been under the necessity of changing works with the mission, to get their oxen.

Yours, respectfully,

WALTER DRAKE.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(92.)

Report of Joseph Dame and Henry Davenport, farmers to the Chippewas of Grand Traverse bay, contains a statement of work done; by which it would appear that they are doing very well.

(93.)

OTTOWA AND GRISWOLD COLONIES,
December 31, 1843.

SIR: I now transmit to you my second report as assistant farmer for the Ottowa and Griswold colonies. On account of so much stormy weather during the quarter, we have not done as much work as we otherwise might have done; however, we have done the best we could. At the Griswold station we secured the crops, as well as we could on account of the wet weather, and mostly finished the houses which I mentioned in my first we

had commenced. We have some sick, which we are occupied some time in taking care of—thus trying to do the best I can for the station. As to the Ottowa station, we labored under the same disadvantages, on account of the wet weather. However, we have secured the crops, repaired their houses, put in about a dozen windows, made the sash for them, found the timber for sash, got out a quantity of timber for chairs, bedsteads, &c., for them, which I purpose to put together next quarter; yet I feel encouraged to persevere on, hoping the next quarter will be fraught with more interest than the present. By reason of sickness and death in my family, I fell eight or ten days short in making out my quarter, which I purpose to make out in the next. I subscribe myself your humble servant,

STEPHEN FAIRBANKS,
Assistant Farmer.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Superintendent of Indian Affairs.

(94.)

OTTOWA AND GRISWOLD COLONIES,
September 30, 1844.

SIR: I transmit to you my quarterly report, ending this day, as assistant farmer for the Ottowa and Griswold colonies. My report for this quarter will not be as interesting as I should wish. We have had so much rainy weather, that it was almost impossible to get hay and secure crops. We have done as well as we could—as the Indians wish me to work on their houses, make cupboards, trunks, &c.; said they did not wish me to work on their land, as they say they could drive team, hold plough, plant, and sow wheat, as well as any white man. According to this, their improvement must be great. If this be the case, would it not be best to withdraw the farmer from them, and place him over some other band, that have not so far advanced in agriculture and the arts of civilization, that will know better how to appreciate his labor and instruction? I submit to your better judgment. Their crops are as good this year as last, if not better—about the same generally. The public property about the same as heretofore.

STEPHEN FAIRBANKS.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Detroit, Michigan.

(95.)

OLD WING, *December* 30, 1843.

SIR: I forward my quarterly report for the quarter ending the 31st instant, but have not that to report which I was in hopes to have had at the end of the last quarter, from the then appearance of things. Soon after the Indians had secured their crops, they went to receive their payment, and were gone some three weeks. On their return, they stopped at Black lake, or a part of them, and a part went to Kalamazoo river.

They have spent most of their time since in gathering cranberries, hunting, and procuring flour, &c.; a few families are camped on their farms, but most of them are at Black lake, at the place of their contemplated village, in relation to which I refer you to a jöint communication, from Mr. Smith and myself, accompanying this report. A little progress has been made in farming operations. I find it very difficult to get them to do any thing; they must have their own time for every thing. I had hoped they would at once engage in agricultural labors, but I find they are not easily induced to abandon old habits and form new (especially industrious) ones; still, I hope after a little they will see the importance of changing their course of life; but I am satisfied it must take a considerable time to effect this, in consequence of the strength of previous habits. Within a short time I have learned that the farming utensils forwarded for the use of the Indians have arrived at Grand Haven. The public property is the same as at last report, with the addition of one ox yoke, worth $4.

A school is in operation, with twenty-four scholars, and the expectation of more in a few days. As yet, I have received no bill of the articles forwarded to Grand Haven.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

OSMAN D. GOODRICH.

ROBERT STUART, Esq.,
Acting Sup't Indian Affairs.

(96.)

OFFICE OF THE NEW YORK SUB-AGENCY,
October 8, 1844.

SIR: In accordance with the regulations of the department, I have the honor to submit my annual report of the condition of the Indians within this sub-agency.

It is to be regretted that difficulties have arisen and still exist between the Senecas and the Ogden company since the treaty of 1842. These difficulties have been caused, in a great measure, in consequence of the company's taking possession of a portion of their lands on the Buffalo creek reservation, and the right they claimed to the timber, previous to the award of the appraisers being filed in the Department of War, according to the provisions of the treaty.

The company have also made sale of a portion of their lands on the Buffalo creek reservation. These sales embrace some of the improved lands, which the purchasers are endeavoring to get immediate possession of, and in some cases have got possession. These things have had the effect to disaffect and harass the Indians; several families have left, and gone to Cattaraugus; there are others who are very anxious to go, if they had the means to enable them to do so, but, as they have not realized any part of the amount awarded to them for their improvements, they are obliged to remain where they are.

There has been a small party among the Senecas who have been in favor of emigrating west of the Mississippi, under the treaty of 1838; but, finding themselves unable to prevail on any considerable number of their

people to accompany them, they are about to abandon the undertaking altogether, I believe.

The Oneidas have disposed of most of their lands; there are now but a small number left, and they will probably soon follow their friends who have gone to Canada and Green Bay.

The Onondagas remain at their old town; they are very quiet, and live comfortably by tilling their land.

The Tuscaroras still remain in possession of their lands; they are altogether the most industrious and thrifty of any of the tribes.

Respectfully, your obedient servant,

S. OSBORN.

Hon. T. Hartley Crawford,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(97.)

Miami Sub-Agency,
Fort Wayne, October 24, 1844.

Sir: A protracted stay in the Miami payment ground prevented my earlier reporting to you the condition of the Miami tribe, under the charge of this sub-agency.

My report of last year fully sets forth their present condition. Their numbers are about the same. In their moral condition, no improvement is perceptible. Still indulging to excess in the use of intoxicating drink, I have no hope any amendment can be effected among them, until they remove to their new homes west. It is with satisfaction I inform you, they decided in council to remove. A detailed statement of that council will be forwarded to you.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

ALLEN HAMILTON.

T. Hartley Crawford, Esq.,
Commissioner of Indian Affairs.

(98.)

Wallamette Valley, Oregon,
November 15, 1843.

Honored Sir: Since my arrival, I have had the honor of addressing you some three or four communications, the last of which left early in April, conveyed by the Hudson Bay Company's express over the Rocky mountains, via Canada, which I hope and judge was duly received.

Immediately after this, I received several communications from missionaries of the interior, some from the Methodists, and others from those sent out by the American board, representing the Indians of the interior as in a state of great excitement, and under much apprehension from the circumstance that such numbers of whites were coming in, as they were informed, to take possession of their lands and country. The excitement

soon became general, both among whites and Indians, in this lower as well upper district; and such were the constantly floating groundless reports, that much uneasiness was felt, and some of our citizens were under such a state of apprehension as to abandon their houses, and place themselves more immediately within the precincts of the colony. As in all such cases, a variety of opinions were entertained and expressed—some pleading for me, at the expense of the General Government, to throw up a strong fortification in the centre of the colony, and furnish the settlers with guns and ammunition, so that we might be prepared for extremities. Others thought it more advisable for me to go at once with an armed force of considerable strength to the heart and centre of this conspiracy, as it was represented, and if words would not answer, make powder and balls do it. A third party entertained other views, and few were really agreed on any one measure.

As may well be imagined, I felt the awkwardness of my position; but, without stopping to consult an agitated populace, selected a sensible clergyman and a single attendant, with my interpreter, and so managed as to throw myself immediately into their midst unobserved. The measure had the desired effect—though, as in my report I will more fully inform you, had like to have cost me my life.

The Indians flocked around me, and inquired after my party, and could not be persuaded, for some time, but that I had a large party concealed somewhere near, and only waited to get them convened, to open a fire upon, and cut them all off at a blow. On convincing them of my defenceless condition and pacific intentions, they were quite astounded and much affected, assuring me they had been under strong apprehensions, having learned I was soon to visit them with a large armed party, with hostile intentions; and I actually found them suffering more from fears of war from the whites, than the whites from the Indians—each party resolving, however, to remain at home, and there fight to the last—though, fortunately, some three or four hundred miles apart.

The day following we left these Wallawallas and Kayuses, to pay a visit to the Nezperces, promising to call on our return, and enter into a treaty of amity, if we could agree on the terms, and wished them to give general notice to all concerned, of both tribes.

In two days we were at Mr. Spaulding's station. The Nezperces came together in greater numbers than on any former occasion for years, and, all the circumstances combining to favor it, received us most cordially. Their improvement during the winter, in reading, writing, &c., was considerable; and the enlargement of their plantations, with the increased variety and quantities of the various kinds of grains and products now vigorously shooting forth, connected with the better state of cultivation and their universally good fences, were certainly most encouraging.

Spending some three days with this interesting tribe, and their devoted missionaries, in the pleasantest manner, they accepted my invitation to visit with me the Kayuses and Wallawallas, and assist by their influence to bring them into the same regulation they had previously adopted, and with which all were so well pleased.

Mr. Spaulding and Ellis, the high chief, with every other chief and brave of importance, and some four or five hundred of the men and their women, accompanied us to Waiilatpu, Doctor Whitman's station, a distance of a hundred twenty miles, where we met the Kayuses and Walla-

wallas in mass, and spent some five or six days in getting matters adjusted and principles settled, so as to receive the Kayuses into the civil compact; which being done, and the high chief elected, much to the satisfaction of both whites and Indians, I ordered two fat oxen to be killed, and wheat, salt, &c., distributed accordingly.

* * * * * * * * *

This was the first feast at which the Indian women of this country were ever permitted to be present, but probably will not be the last; for, after some explanations of my reasons, the chiefs were highly pleased with it; and I believe more was done at that feast to elevate and bring forward their poor oppressed women than could have been done in years by private instruction.

The feast broke up in the happiest manner after Five Crows, the Kayuse chief, Ellis, and the old war chief of whom I made particular mention in my last report as being so well acquainted with Clark, and a few others, had made their speeches, and we had smoked the pipe of peace, which was done by all in great good humor.

From this, we proceeded to the Dalles on the Columbia river, where I spent two months in instructing the Indians of different tribes, who either came in mass, or sent ambassadors to treat with me, or, as they denominate it, take my laws, which are thus far found to operate well, giving them greater security among themselves, and helping much to regulate their intercourse with the whites. Being exceedingly anxious to bring about an improvement and reformation among this people, I begged money and procured articles for clothing to the amount of a few hundred dollars, not to be given, but to be sold out to the industrious women, for mats, baskets, and their various articles of manufacture, in order to get them clothed comfortably to appear at church; enlisted the cheerful co-operation of the mission ladies in instructing them how to sew and make up their dresses; and had the happiness to see some twenty of these neatly clad at divine service, and a somewhat large number out in the happiest mood to a feast I ordered them, at which the mission ladies and gentlemen were present.

During these two months I labored hard, visiting many of their sick daily; and by the most prompt and kind attention, and sympathizing with them in their affliction, encouraging the industrious and virtuous, and frowning in language and *looks* upon the *vicious*, I am satisfied good was done. They gave evidence of attachment; and my influence was manifestly increased, as well as the laws more thoroughly understood, by reason of my remaining so long among them.

During my up-country excursion, the whites of the colony convened, and formed a code of laws to regulate intercourse between themselves during the absence of law from our mother country, adopting in almost all respects the Iowa code. In this I was consulted, and encouraged the measure, as it was so manifestly necessary for the collection of debts, securing rights in claims, and the regulation of general intercourse among the whites.

Thus far, these laws have been of some force and importance, answering well in cases of trespass and the collection of debts; but is doubtful how they would succeed in criminal affairs, especially if there should happen to be a division of sentiment in the public mind.

The Indians of this lower country, as was to be expected, give considerable trouble, and are most vexatious subjects to deal with. In mind

the weakest and most depraved of their race, and physically thoroughly contaminated with the scrofula, and a still more loathsome disease entailed by the whites; robbed of their game and former means of covering; lost to the use of the bow and arrow; laughed at, scoffed, and contemned by the whites, and a hiss and by-word to the surrounding tribes, they are too dejected, poor, and depressed, to feel the least pleasure in their former amusements, and wander about seeking generally a scanty pittance by begging and pilfering, but the more ambitious and desperate among them stealing and in some instances plundering on a large scale. Were it not that greater forbearance is exercised towards them than whites generally exercise, bloodshed, anarchy, and confusion, would reign predominant among us. But thus far, it is but just to say, the Indians have been, in almost every instance, the aggressors; and though none of us now apprehend an Indian war or invasion, it appears to me morally impossible that general quiet can long be secure, unless Government take almost immediate measures to relieve the anxieties and better the condition of these poor savages and other Indians of this country. I am doing what I can, and, by reason of my profession, with lending them all the assistance possible in sickness, and sympathizing with them in their numerous afflictions, and occasionally feeding, feasting, and giving them little tokens of kind regard, have as yet considerable influence over them, but have to punish some, and occasion the chiefs to punish more, which creates me enemies, and must eventuate in lessening my influence among them, unless the means are put in my hands to sustain and encourage the chiefs and well-disposed among them. *Good words, kind looks*, and *medicine*, have some *power;* but, honored and very dear sir, *you* and *I* know they do not tell with Indians like blankets and present articles, to meet their tastes, wants, and necessities. Sir, I know how deeply anxious you are to benefit and save what can be of the withering Indian tribes, in which God knows how fully and heartily I am with you, and earnestly pray you, and through you our General Government, to take immediate measures to satisfy the minds, and, so far as possible, render to these Indians an equivalent for their once numerous herds of deer, elk, buffalo, beaver, and otter, nearly as tame as our domestic animals, previously to the whites and their fire arms coming among them, and of which they are now stripped, and for which they suffer. But, if nothing can be done for them upon this score, pray save them from being forcibly ejected from the land and graves of their fathers, of which they begin to entertain serious fears. Many are becoming considerably enlightened on the subject of the white man's policy, and begin to quake in view of their future doom; and come to me from time to time, anxiously inquiring what they are to receive for such an one coming and cutting off all their most valuable timber, and floating it to the falls of the Wallamette, and getting large sums for it; some praying the removal of licentious whites from among them; others requiring pay for their old homestead, or a removal of the intruders. So, sir, you see already I have my hands, head, and heart full; and if as yet I have succeeded in giving satisfaction—as many hundreds that neither know nor care for me, nor regard in the least the rights of the Indians, are now flocking in—something more must be done, and that speedily, or a storm ensues.

I remove all licentious offenders from among them, especially if located at a distance from the colony, and encourage the community to keep within

reasonable bounds, and settle as compactly as the general interest and duty to themselves will admit.

The large immigrating party have now arrived, most of them with *their herds*, having left the wagons at Wallawalla and the Dalles, which they intend to bring by land or water to the Wallamette in the spring. Whether they succeed in getting them through by land the last sixty miles is doubtful, the road not having been as yet well explored. They are greatly pleased with the country and its prospects. Mr. Applegate, who has been so much in Government employ and surveyed such portions of Missouri, says of this valley, it is a country of the greatest beauty, and the finest soil he has seen.

Having visited larger portions, and in different directions, the last summer, than heretofore—principally in the mountainous parts between this and the Dalles—I am most cheerful in saying I have not seen a country presenting such a variety of beautiful scenery, and possessing, at the same time, such advantages of timber, water, strength of soil, and mildness of climate; and, as to health, having visited sixteen of the United States, the Sandwich islands, with some other portions of the earth, I must say, after practising medicine somewhat extensively here for the last six years, I regard it the most healthy country with which I am acquainted; diseases the least numerous in classes, and simple in their character, being generally entirely under the control of proper remedial measures.

The settlers are actively and vigorously employed, and the colony in a most prosperous state; crops of every kind having been unusually good this season. The little unhappy difference between the American settlers and the Hudson Bay Company, arising from the last spring's petition to our Government, has been healed, and we have general quiet—both parties conducting very properly towards each other at present. And here allow me to say, the seasonable services, in which hundreds of dollars were gratuitously expended in assisting such numbers of our poor emigrant citizens down the Columbia to the Wallamette, entitle Governor McLaughlin, saying nothing of his previous fatherly and fostering care of this colony, to the honorable consideration of the members of our Government. And I hope, as he is desirous to settle with his family in this country, and has made a claim at the falls of Wallamette, his claim will be honored in such a manner as to make him conscious that we, as a nation, are not insensible to his numerous acts of benevolence and hospitality towards our countrymen. Sir, in the midst of slander, envy, jealousy, and, in too many instances, of the blackest ingratitude, his unceasing, never-tiring hospitality affects me, and makes him appear in a widely different light than too many would have him and his worthy associates appear before the world.

The last year's report, in which was incorporated Mr. Linn's Oregon speech and Captain Spalding's statements of hundreds of unoffending Indians being shot down annually by men under his control, affects the gentlemen of the Hudson Bay Company, and is utterly without foundation—no company or gentlemen ever having conducted more judiciously among Indians than they uniformly have done in this country; and I am of the Governor's opinion, who declares, openly, there have not ten Indians been killed by whites in this whole region west of Fort Hall, for the last twenty years, nor do I know that number, and two of those were killed by our citizens. What were destroyed by the Hudson Bay Company suffered

for wilful murder, none pretending a doubt of the propriety of the course adopted.

There are now four schools kept in the colony, of which I shall speak more fully in my annual report—one at the Palatine Plains, under the direction and auspices of the Rev. Mr. Clark, a self-supporting missionary; a second (French and English) school is in successful operation by Mr. Blanchette, Roman Catholic missionary to this colony; a third is well sustained by the citizens, and kept at the falls of the Wallamette; a fourth (boarding and manual labor) sustained by the Methodist board of missions, for the benefit of Indian youth, of which Mr. Lee will speak particularly. The location is healthy, eligible, and beautiful, and the noble edifice does honor to the benevolent cause and agents that founded it. And while here, allow me to say Mr. Jesse Applegate, from Missouri, is now surveying the mission claim, a plat of which will be presented to the consideration of the members of our Government, for acceptance or otherwise, of which I have but little to say, as I entertain no doubt but Mr. Lee's representation will be most faithful. Should the ground of his claim be predicated upon the much effected for the benefit of the Indians, I am not with him; for, with all that has been expended, without doubting the correctness of the intention, it is most manifest to every observer that the Indians of this lower country, as a whole, have been very little benefited. They were too far gone with scrofula and venereal. But should he insist, as a reason of his claim, the benefit arising to the colony and country, I am with him heartily; and notwithstanding the claim is a valuable one, this country has been increased more by the mission operations than twice its amount in finance; besides, much has been done in advancing civilization, temperance, literature, and good morals, saying nothing of the evils that must have arisen in this lawless country in the absence of all moral restraint. Mr. Lee was the among the first pioneers to this distant land, has struggled in its cares, toils, and trials, has risen with its rise; and it is but just to say he and his associates are exerting a considerable and most salutary influence all abroad among us. I hope his reception will be such that he will return from Washington cheered and encouraged to pursue his benevolent operations in this country. The Catholic and the different Protestant missions have been prosperous during the last year, and are as generally acceptable to the whites as could, from their different pursuits, have been expected.

* * * * * *

In closing, allow me to say, for the instruction and encouragement of immigrants: Come light, save with provisions, and travel compactly. Heed this last injunction by all means, so far at least as not less than fifty to be found aloof from the main camp, and you will save yourselves from danger and wrong, and the Indians from temptation and guilt. Last spring I addressed a communication to the present immigrating party, meeting them at Fort Hall, urging them, from a variety of considerations, the same directions, a part only of whom followed them—others came strolling along in little bands of from two to six, and, as was to be expected, scarcely any escaped without being robbed or pillaged. Such conduct is highly censurable, as it tends directly to encourage and embolden the Indians to their hurt and our ruin. By travelling compactly, and treating the Indians kindly, but with proper reserve, and at all times keeping a vigilant watch, no danger is to be apprehended to person or property; but without these

regulations there is danger. Have no apprehension of want; it is a land of plenty; and, after a long and well-contested debate, a few months since, at our Oregon lyceum, it was unanimously voted, that the colony of Wallamette held out the most flattering encouragement to immigrants of any colony on the globe. Great expectations are entertained, from the fact that Mr. Linn's bill has passed the Senate; and as it has been so long before the public, and favorably entertained at Washington, should it at last fail of passing the lower House, suffer me to predict, in view of what so many have been induced to undergo, in person and property, to get to this distant country, it will create a disaffection so strong as to end only in open rebellion; whereas, should it pass into a law, it will be regarded as most liberal and handsome, and will be appreciated by most, if not all, in Oregon.

As to the claim for the Oregon institute, I need say nothing, having said enough in my last report; but, as that may have failed in reaching, I would just remark, that the location is a healthy one, and the site fine, with prospect charmingly varied, extensive, and beautiful.

I leave this subject with Mr. Lee and the members of our liberal Government, not doubting but that all will be done for this institute, and otherwise, that can be, and as soon as practicable, to lay deep and broad the foundation of science and literature in this country.

And here I must close, as Mr. Lee is already sixty miles on his way, but not without saying I am much obliged in getting your last report, which reached me a few weeks since, and shall feel still more obliged and honored in getting a communication from your own pen, enlightening, correcting, encouraging, or admonishing me, in my new and difficult work, and certainly most awkward position, in which, as yet, I have succeeded better with both whites and Indians than I had expected, and can but hope some good has been effected by my appointment, especially to the latter.

As my former worthy interpreter is dead, allow me to pray the appointment of Ellis, the high chief of the Nezperces, in his stead, who is not only versed in his own tongue and the Wallawalla, but an English scholar, and a man of sense. As he is so well regarded, his appointment will have a good influence both among whites and Indians.

I have kept within limit of the $300 for interpreters the last year, being under the necessity of paying $180 for sixty days' service at one time, and in no instance short of a dollar per day, though I hire as I want, and dismiss at once on closing present business—this being the only way I could hope to give the department satisfaction, in view of the multiplicity of tribes and languages this side the mountains. I have sent for and been hourly expecting my bills from Vancouver, but, from some cause unknown to me, they have not reached, and by reason I am prevented sending at this time my quarterly report of expenditure—a circumstance I regret, and did not expect; but, aside from interpreter, travelling expenses, and for office contingencies, it is small, and shall be forwarded at my earliest convenience. The sum allowed for feeding and feasting Indians, as provisions are very high, (beef being worth from five to seven dollars per hundred, pork from eight to ten dollars, wheat, corn, barley, and peas, a dollar, and potatoes forty cents,) proves hardly sufficient to give satisfaction. The erection of my little office, at the expense of $225, I hope and trust, with my actual travelling expenses, will be paid. If this cannot be done consistently, pray call me home at once.

As I notified you in my report, I cannot sell drafts payable at Washing-

ton, and await your order to draft on London for at least a thousand dollars per annum, as, for the last year, for interpreter and my travelling expenses, with office contingencies and presents to Indians, I have been under the necessity of drafting more from Vancouver than I had expected—the Indian excitement and threatened invasion rendering this unavoidable.

Respectfully, yours,

ELIJAH WHITE,
Sub-Agent Indian Affairs, W. R. M.

Hon. J. M. PORTER,
Secretary of War.

(99.)

WALLAMETTE, *March* 18, 1844.

SIR: On the evening of the 1st February, the two following letters came to me, finding me in the upper settlements of the Wallamette, distance 40 miles:

"WALLAMETTE FALLS, *January* 29, 1844.

"DEAR SIR: The undersigned would take this occasion to inform you that there has been of late in this place some few cases of intoxication from the effects of ardent spirits. It is currently reported that it is distilled in this place, and the undersigned have good reason to credit such reports. Whilst, therefore, the undersigned will not trouble you, sir, with a detailed exposition of the facts, they must be permitted to express their deliberate conviction that that which has inflicted so much injury upon the morals, the peace, and happiness of the world, ought not to be permitted to be manufactured in this country under any circumstances. And your attention is respectfully invited to this subject.

"We have the honor to be, dear sir,

"PETER H. HATCH, *President.*
"A. F. LOVEJOY, *V. President.*
"A. F. WALLER, *Secretary.*

"Doctor E. WHITE,
"*Sub-Agent Ind. Affairs for Oregon Territory.*"

"WALLAMETTE FALLS, *January* 26, 1844.

"DEAR SIR: I do not know but you have been written to already on the subject which is the cause of no inconsiderable excitement at this place, viz: the manufacture and use of that most degrading, withering, and damning of all the causes that has ever visited our race since the fall of Adam. As much as we regret it, deplore it, and anathematize the men who made it, it is nevertheless made, and men, or rather biped brutes, get drunk. Now, we believe if there is any thing that calls your attention in your official capacity, or any thing in which you would be most cordially supported by the good sense and prompt action of the better part of the community, it is the present case. We do not wish to dictate, but hope for the best, begging pardon for intrusions.

"I am, dear sir, yours, truly,

"W. H. WILSON.

"ELIJAH WHITE, Esq.,
"*Sub Agent, Oregon Territory.*"

I accordingly left at sunrise on the following morning, and reached the falls at sunset. Without delay, I secured the criminal and his distillery, broke his apparatus, and buried it in the Wallamette river. I put the aggressor under bonds, in the strongest penalty the nature of the case would admit, $300—few being willing to be his bondmen even for this amount.

Mr. Pettygrove, a merchant of good habits and character, being accused of keeping and selling wine and brandy, I searched, and found, as he had acknowledged, a half gallon of brandy and part of a barrel of port wine, which has been used and occasionally parted with only for medicinal purposes; and to avoid all appearance of partiality, I required the delivery of the brandy and wine on the delivery of the enclosed bond, which was most cheerfully and cordially given—amount $1,000. I searched every suspicious place thoroughly, aided by the citizens, but found no ardent spirits or wine in the colony. Since this period, no attempts have been made to make, introduce, or vend liquors; and the great majority of the colonists come warmly to my support in this matter, proffering their aid to keep this bane from our community.

On the evening of February 20, I received the following communication, accompanied by corroboratory statements from Mr. Foster, of Oregon city:

"WALLAMETTE FALLS, *February* 16, 1844.

"SIR: I beg leave to inform you that there is an Indian about this place, of the name of 'Cockstock,' who is in the habit of making continual threats against the settlers in this neighborhood, and who has also murdered several Indians lately. He has conducted himself lately in so outrageous a manner, that Mr. Winslow Anderson has considered himself in personal danger, and on that account has left his place, and come to reside at the falls of the Wallamette; and were I in circumstances that I could possibly remove from my place, I would certainly remove also, but am so situated that it is not possible for me to do so. I beg, therefore, that you, sir, will take into consideration the propriety of ridding the country of a villain, against the depredations of whom none can be safe, as it is impossible to guard against the lurking attacks of the midnight murderer. I have therefore taken the liberty of informing you that I shall be in expectation of a decided answer from you on or before the 10th of March next; after that date, I shall consider myself justified in acting as I shall see fit, on any repetition of the threats made by the before-mentioned Indian or his party.

"I am, &c., with respect,

"JAMES D. SAULES.

"D. E. WHITE, *Superintendent, &c.*"

As I well knew all the individuals concerned, I resolved to repair immediately to the spot, and, if possible, secure the Indian without bloodshed, as he was connected with some of the most formidable tribes in this part of the territory, though a very dangerous and violent character. Accordingly I started, and reached the falls on the following evening, collected a party to repair to the spot, and secure him whilst asleep, knowing that he would not submit to be taken prisoner without resistance. The evening was stormy, and the distance some eight miles through thick wood and fallen timber, with two bad streams to cross. Being on foot, my party declined the attempt till morning—a circumstance I much regretted; yet, having no

military force, I was compelled to yield. In the morning I headed the party of ten men to take this Indian, who had only five adherents, in hopes to surprise and secure him without fighting—enjoining my men, from many considerations, not to fire unless ordered to do so in self-defence. Unfortunately, two horses had just been stolen and a house plundered, and the Indians absconded, leaving no doubt on our minds of their being the thieves, as after tracking them two or three miles into the forest, they had split off in such a manner as to elude pursuit, and we were forced to return to town unsuccessful, as further pursuit was little more rational than chasing an eagle among the mountains. Cockstock had sworn vengeance against several of my party, and they thirsted for his blood. Having no other means of securing him, I offered $100 reward to any who would deliver him safely into my hands, as I wished to convey him for trial to the authorities constituted among the Nezperces and Kayuses, not doubting that they would feel honored in inflicting a just sentence upon him, and the colony thereby be saved from an Indian war, so much to be dreaded in our present weak and defenceless condition.

Some six days subsequent, Cockstock and his party, six in all, came into town in midday, rode from house to house, showing their loaded pistols, but not allowing any one, by artifice or flattery, to get them out of his bosom or hand. He and his party were horridly painted, and rode about the town, setting, as the citizens and especially his enemies construed it, the whole town at defiance. The citizens endured it for several hours, but with great impatience, when at length he crossed the river, and entered the Indian village opposite, and, as the chief states, labored for some time to induce them to join him and burn down the town that night, destroying as many of the whites as possible. Failing in this, (if serious or correct in statement, which is much doubted by some, as the chief and whole Indian village were inimical to him, and doubtless wished, as he was a "brave," to make the whites the instrument of his destruction,) he obtained an interpreter, and recrossed the river, as other Indians state, for the purpose of calling the whites to an explanation for pursuing him with hostile intentions. By this time, the excitement had become intense with all classes and both sexes amongst the whites in town, and, as was to be expected, they ran in confusion and disorder towards the place where the Indians were landing—some to take him alive and get the reward, others to shoot him at any risk to themselves, the wealthiest men in town promising to stand by them to the amount of $1,000 each. With these different views, and no concert of action, and many running merely to witness the affray, the Indians were met at the landing, and a firing commenced simultaneously on both sides, each party accusing the other of firing first. In the midst of a hot firing on both sides, Mr. George W. Le Breton, a respectable and valuable young man, rushed unarmed upon Cockstock, after the discharge of one or more of his pistols, and received a heavy discharge in the palm of his right hand, lodging one ball in his elbow and another in his arm, two inches above the elbow joint. A scuffle ensued, in which he fell with the Indian, crying out for help, "he is killing me with his knife." At this moment, a mulatto man ran up, named Winslow Anderson, and despatched Cockstock by mashing his skull with the barrel of his rifle, using it as a soldier would a bayonet. In the mean time, the other Indians were firing among the whites in every direction, with guns, pistols, and poisoned arrows, yelling fearfully, and many very narrowly escaped. Two men who were quietly at work near by were

wounded with arrows, (Mr. Wilson slightly in the hip, and Mr. Rogers in the muscle of the arm,) but neither, as was supposed, dangerously. The five Indians, having shot their guns and arrows, retired towards the bluff east of the town, lodged themselves in the rocks, and again commenced firing upon the citizens indiscriminately. Attention was soon directed that way, and fire arms having been brought, the Indians were soon routed, killing one of their horses, and wounding one of them, thus ending the affray.

Mr. Le Breton (the surgeon being absent from town) was removed immediately to Vancouver, where he received every attention; but the canoe having been ten hours on the passage, the poison had diffused itself all abroad into his system, and proved mortal in less than three days from the moment of the horrid disaster. Mr. Rogers lived but one day longer, though but slightly wounded with an arrow in the muscle of the arm. Mr. Wilson has suffered comparatively little, but is not considered in a safe condition.

This unhappy affray has created a general sensation throughout the colony, and all abroad among the Indians of this lower district. Now, whilst I am penning these lines, I am completely surrounded by at least seventy armed Indians, just down from the Dalles of the Columbia, many of them professed relatives of the deceased, on the way to the falls of the Wallamette, to demand an explanation, or, in other words, to extort a present for the loss of their brother.

They appear well affected towards me—remarkably so—though armed to the teeth, and painted horridly. I am every moment expecting my interpreter, when I shall probably learn particulars respecting their intentions. In the mean time, I will give a few particulars respecting this deceased Indian's previous course, which led to the disaster, showing how much we need authorities and discipline in this country.

As it is said, a negro hired Cockstock for a given time, to be paid in a certain horse. Before the time expired, the negro sold the horse and land claim to another negro, the Indian finishing his time with the purchaser, according to agreement. Learning, however, to his chagrin and mortification, that the horse had changed owners, and believing it a conspiracy against his rights, he resolved to take the horse forcibly—did so—and this led to a year's contention, many threats, some wounds, and at last to the three deaths, and may possibly lead to all the horrors of savage warfare in our hitherto quiet neighborhood. It was this very same identical Cockstock that occasioned much of the excitement last spring amongst the whites of the colony, actually driving several from their homes to the more central parts of the settlement, for protection.

I saw and had an interview with the Indians in June following, and settled all differences, to appearances, satisfactorily; but, four months subsequently, having occasioned the authorities constituted among the Indians to flog one of his connexions for violently entering the house of the Rev. H. R. Perkins, seizing his person, and attempting to tie, with a view to flog him, he took fire afresh, and in November last came with a slave to my house, with the avowed object of shooting me down at once; but finding me absent, after a close search in every part of my house, he commenced smashing the windows, lights, sash, and all, from my house and office, with the breech of his gun; and it is but just to say he did his work most effectually, not leaving a sound window in either. He next started hotly in

pursuit of my steward, who was most actively retreating, but soon overtaken and seized by the shoulder; but his garment giving way saved the frightened young man from further violence.

I returned late in the evening, this having occurred at 3, P. M., when the villains were too far away to be overtaken, though I pursued them with the best men of the colony during the whole night, and as long after as we could trace them. This was regarded a great outrage, and created a strong sensation throughout the community, especially as none knew where to trace it until within a few weeks past. Some four weeks subsequently, fifteen Indians came in open day, riding into the neighborhood, painted and well armed. I was the first, with one exception, that observed them, and learned they were Molallas and Klamets, and felt confident they were on an errand of mischief, being well informed of their marauding and desperate habits. As this is quite out of their province, the proper homes of the Klamets being at least 300 miles to the south, and the Mollallas, with whom they intermarry, having their lodges in the Cascade mountains, a distance of from 40 to 80 miles, I resolved at once to turn their visit to account; sent my steward to chief Caleb's lodge, where all had arrived, he being a Callapooyah, and with his band having previously entered with me into the civil compact, and gave him a cordial invitation to call on me, with the chiefs of his district, in the morning, as I wished to see them, and had some interesting and pleasing news to convey to them. The chief called in the morning, none, however, appearing so pleased and happy as king Caleb. Of this I took no notice, but entered into cheerful conversation with king Caleb for a few moments, and then rose up and invited them to walk out and see my plantation and herds.

When we reached the cattle, I, as by accident, or incidentally, asked Caleb if he was prepared to give a feast to his distant friends who had so lately and unexpectedly called upon him. Answering in the negative, I told him to shoot down at once a fat young ox that was passing before us, and, while some were dressing it, others to come to the house and get some flour, peas, salt, &c., and go immediately back and feast his friends, lest they form a very unfavorable opinion of us here. I need not say the summons was obeyed promptly, and Caleb the happiest man in the world. Now the rigid muscles of the stranger chiefs began to relax; in short, all distrust was soon lost, and,as they were about leaving for Caleb's camp, they found themselves constrained to inform me that they came over with very different feelings from what they were now leaving us with, and were very glad they had listened to Caleb's advice, and called upon me. Professing to be very much engaged at the moment, I told them to go and dine, and at evening, or early the following morning, I would come with my friend, Mr. Applegate, and make them a call.

They feasted to the full, and I found them in great good humor, and in a better condition to smoke than fight. After some casual conversation, I asked them how they would like to enter into the civil compact; and, whilst they were discussing the subject, this Indian (Cockstock) came first into my presence, well armed, and appeared cold and distant, though I had not any suspicion of his being the character who had so lately broken to pieces the windows of my house and office.

They had no scruples in saying they were entirely willing, and should be pleased on their part to enter upon the same terms, but did not know how it might be regarded by the residue of their respective tribes. They

engaged to meet me on the 15th March, with the residue of their people, and use their influence to bring about so desirable an object. The party left the same day, apparently in a cheerful mood, passed over the prairie singing, talking, and laughing merrily. As a part, however, were passing their horses over a difficult stream, the other part fell upon and massacred them in a most shocking manner, this villainous Cockstock acting a conspicuous part in the bloody affair.

I repaired to the spot without delay, as the whites were much excited, and wished to pursue and hang every one of them. I learned there had been unsettled feuds of long standing, and that in like manner, ten months previous, three unfortunate wretches had shot down a fellow traveller. On conveying this information to the citizens, all I believe were satisfied to stay at home, and remain quiet for the present.

Thus much for this Indian affair, which, my interpreter having arrived, I have settled to-day with the Dalles Indians most satisfactorily. As was to be expected, they wished presents for the death of their brother. I prevailed on all to be seated, and then explained the whole case slowly and clearly to their understanding. I told them we had lost two valuable innocent men, and they but one; and should our people learn that I had given them presents, without their giving me two blankets for one, they must expect nothing but the hottest displeasure from the whites. After much deliberation among themselves, they with one voice concluded to leave the whole matter to my discretion.

I at once decided to give the poor Indian widow two blankets, a dress, and handkerchief, believing the moral influence better than to make presents to the chief or tribe, and to receive nothing at their hands. To this proposition they most cheerfully consented, and have now left, having asked for and obtained from me a written certificate, stating that the matter has been amicably adjusted. It is to be hoped that it will here end, though that is by no means certain, as at present there are so many sources of uneasiness and discontent between the parties.

As I said before, I believe it morally impossible for us to remain at peace in Oregon, for any considerable time, without the protection of vigorous civil or military law. For myself, I am most awkwardly situated, so much so, indeed, that I had seriously anticipated leaving this spring; but the late successful contest against the introduction of ardent spirits, in connexion with the excitement by reason of the unhappy disaster at the falls of the Wallamette, together with the fact of too many of our people being so extremely excitable on Indian and other affairs relating to the peace and interest of the colony and country, I have concluded to remain for the present, in hopes of being soon in some way relieved. I hope the draft that I have this day effected in favor of John McLaughlin will be honored, as otherwise I may be thrown at once into the greatest difficulties, having no other house in this country where I can draw such articles as I require for necessary presents to Indians, to defray travelling expenses, &c.

I have the honor to remain, with respect, your obedient humble servant,

E. WHITE,
Sub-Agent Indian Affairs.

HON. J. M. PORTER,
Secretary of War.

(100.)

WALLAMETTE, *March*, 1843.

The Nezperces have one Governor or principal chief—twelve subordinate chiefs of equal power being the head of the different villages or clans, with their five officers to execute all their lawful orders, which laws they have printed in their own language, and read understandingly.

The chiefs are held responsible to the whites for the good behaviour of the tribe. They are a happy and orderly people, forming an honorable exception to the general Indian character; being more industrious, cleanly, sensible, dignified, and virtuous.

This organization was effected last fall, and operates well, and with them, it is to be hoped, will succeed. A few days since, Governor McLaughlin favored me with a note, addressed to him from the Rev. H. H. Spalding, missionary to this tribe, stating as follows:

"The Indians in this vicinity are remarkably quiet this winter, and are highly pleased with the laws recommended by Doctor White, which were unanimously adopted by the chiefs and people in council assembled.

"The visit of Doctor White and assistants to this upper country will evidently prove an incalcuable blessing to this people.

"The school now numbers 224 in daily attendance, embracing most of the chiefs and principal men of the nation."

Laws of the Nezperces.

ART. 1. Whoever wilfully takes life shall be hung.

ART. 2. Whoever burns a dwelling shall be hung.

ART. 3. Whoever burns an out-building shall be imprisoned six months, receive fifty lashes, and pay all damages.

ART. 4. Whoever carelessly burns a house, or any property, shall pay damages.

ART. 5. If any enter a dwelling without permission of the occupant, the chiefs shall punish him as they think proper. Public rooms are excepted.

ART. 6. If any one steal, he shall pay back two-fold; and if it be the value of a beaver skin and less, he shall have twenty-five lashes; if the value is over a beaver skin, he shall receive fifty lashes.

ART. 7. If any one enter a field, and injure the crops, or throw down the fence, so that cattle or horses go in and do damage, he shall pay all damages, and receive twenty-five lashes for every offence.

ART. 8. Those only may keep dogs who travel or live among the game. If a dog kills a lamb, calf, or any domestic animal, the owner of the dog shall pay the damage, and kill the dog.

ART. 9. If an Indian break these laws, he shall be punished by his chiefs. If a white man break them, he shall be reported to the agent, and punished at his instance.

ART. 10. If an Indian raise a gun or other weapon against a white man, it shall be reported to the chiefs, and they shall punish him. If a white man do the same to an Indlan, it shall be reported to the agent, and he shall punish or redress it.

E. WHITE.

N. B. Many of the Indian tribes have adopted the above laws, and thus far honored them beyond all expectation.

E. W.